SANDWELL
CHRONICLE

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Girls jump to it

It's spring time for team after trampoline success

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Costly storms

Trail of destruction left by gusts as winter winds hit

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Handy defeat

No penalty for Albion as they lose three in a row

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FESTIVE WISH FOR SON COMES TRUE

A COMMUNITY has pulled together to help one mother realise her dream of creating a Christmas her seriously ill son will never forget

Melodie Williams had only one wish this year – to create a winter wonderland that her three-year-old son Mason would remember forever and thanks to the Christmas spirit shown by friends, families and businesses, her vision has become a reality.

by Tom Mason

Hundreds of lights, decorations, inflatable snow globes and even a snow machine were donated to the family following a heartfelt appeal.

Dozens of volunteers all joined in to help put up dazzling displays which illuminate the family's home and garden in Rowley Regis.

Mrs Williams said: "It was absolutely brilliant to see the house lit up. Everyone's feedback from it was really lovely. We had so many people who had helped turn up to see the lights and the road was full of cars. They all said they had a wonderful time."

Inspired

Despite the fact he is partially-sighted in his right eye, Mason enjoys lights and it was this which inspired the idea for the light show.

"Unfortunately, Mason wasn't very well on the night and couldn't really enjoy it, but we will keep the house lit up for the rest of Christmas for him to enjoy," Mrs Williams added.

Mason was born with a condition commonly known as having 'half a heart' – Hypoplastic left heart syndrome (HLHS). The condition occurs in around one out of 4,344 live births and current expectations are that 70 per cent of those with HLHS will reach adulthood.

Mason also has a rare condition called microdeletion, which means he is missing genes and has development delay, which has stunted his growth and slowed his ability to learn.

Mason has already undergone two big operations to 're-plumb' his heart, but due to pressures in his lungs, he is currently unable to have the final stage of the procedure.

He continues to receive regular care, but the family have been told that if his condition does not improve or he does not continue to grow within 12 months he will not be able to have the operation, which is known as the Norwood Procedure.

"It's a massive operation and he really needs to show that he is strong enough and the pressure in his lungs is low enough before they will even consider starting," Mrs Williams, said. "If he had the operation today he wouldn't survive.

"We wanted to make this Christmas really memorable for everyone. If Mason can't have his operation, there's a chance he may not be here next year, so it had to be extra special. This is the best Christmas present we as a family could have ever asked for."

Mrs Williams, who is also mother to Adam, 16, Sadie, 11, Harmonie, six and Dominic, four, is still uncertain what the future holds for Mason. But she said after last Friday's switch on: "I just want to say a big thank you to everyone that helped make the day so special."

Melodie Williams, aged 41, holding her son Mason, three, after the family's Christmas lights were switched on

Pregnant woman's attacker locked up

THE FEROCITY of his attack on his heavily pregnant former girlfriend was so intense that he broke two knives.

Now Andre Omar Smith is behind bars for the frenzied attack after starting a 15-year prison sentence.

Rachel Kane had split up with Smith in 2009 and was seven months pregnant by her new partner at the time of the attack. She was critically injured and went into premature labour, giving birth a week later to a baby girl who survived.

Smith, aged 25, of Hamstead Road, Great Barr, was sentenced on Monday after admitting the attempted murder of Miss Kane at her home in Kidderminster.

A charge of attempted destruction of Miss Kane's unborn child was ordered to lie on file.

The court was told Smith had broken into Miss Kane's house, in Lea Street on July 28, armed with a knife before carrying out the attack in front of their four-year-old son. Both Miss Kane and her son's screams alerted neighbours and the young mother's family were also called.

The 25-year-old was left in a critical condition with nine stab wounds, including six to her abdomen. Her uterus and liver were also lacerated and she suffered a perforated bowel.

● Brutal – See Page 3

It's lighter reading now

A LIBRARY manager has lost more than five stone and 12 per cent body fat in a recent sponsored slim.

Robert Hazel, aged 48, the manager of Tipton and Langley libraries, spent 12 weeks shedding the pounds and hopes to raise £500 in total. He undertook the challenge in aid of Acorns Children's Hospice.

"I would like to thank all those who sponsored me," he said. Anyone still wishing to support the charity can donate at **www.justgiving.com/roberthazel**

To find out more visit **www.acorns.org.uk**

Ex-Albion player is caught in bets row

A FORMER West Bromwich Albion footballer has been caught up in a gambling storm while a recent Wolves opponent has been accused of spot-fixing at Molineux.

Sam Sodje is alleged to have been the fixer at the centre of the alleged scam, which sees betting syndicates wager on cautions.

Mr Sodje, 33, also allegedly told how he punched Oldham Athletic player Jose Baxter in the groin when he was playing for Portsmouth last season to get sent off in exchange for a £70,000 payout.

Mr Sodje played 11 games on loan at Albion from Reading in spring 2007 and helped them to the Championship play-off final.

The Football Association hierarchy has been quick to rule out claims of match-fixing being widespread in the game, after six people were arrested by the National Crime Agency.

Oldham Athletic forward Cristian Montano is one of them. He was accused of spot-fixing in a recent game against Wolves at Molineux and has been suspended without pay by his team.

Twenty-one-year-old Colombian attacker Montano is alleged to have tried to get booked in exchange for cash in the first half of Wolves' League One game against Oldham on October 22, which Wolves won 2-0.

Patrols set to continue

POLICE patrols will continue around a playing field that has been a magnet for problems after officers arrested five teenagers for racially-motivated attacks – including an assault on two pensioners.

An investigation began in October when two men, aged 68 and 70, were kicked and punched in separate attacks in Cradley Heath.

Another assault was reported when an eight-year-old boy was slapped, and a man was in his Toyota car when the group of teenagers surrounded it and kicked it, causing damage to the car.

Pupils at best schools in Black Country

MORE pupils in Sandwell attend good or outstanding primary schools than anywhere else in the Black Country, a new report revealed today.

Eighty-two per cent of youngsters in the borough attend top-rated schools, compared to 72 per cent in Dudley and 60 per cent in Walsall. In Wolverhampton the figure is just 56 per cent.

The figures were revealed in education watchdog Ofsted's annual report.

Meanwhile, the borough is also performing well in the Black Country in terms of secondary education with 74 per cent of pupils attending good or outstanding secondary schools, compared with 78 per cent in Walsall and 72 per cent in Wolverhampton. In Dudley just 55 per cent go to good or outstanding secondary schools.

Sandwell Council's cabinet member for children's services Councillor Simon Hackett said: "Improving education in Sandwell is a priority and we have made progress towards achieving that ambition." The figures were revealed as Ofsted warned that the story of England's education system is 'a tale of two nations'.

Children from similar backgrounds and of similar abilities can end up with different prospects just because of where they were born and the quality of the school they attended, according to the watchdog's annual report. It suggested that there is still a 'patchwork of provision', with some areas performing much better than others.

NEWS

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Ex-chief breaks silence on Public's end

FORMER boss of The Public, Linda Saunders has this week broken her sildence to finally hit out over the decision to turn the building into a sixth form.

The ex-managing director of the facility insists that the venue had been making a real difference to people in Sandwell, before it was closed for good. She claims that staff at the £72 million centre, including herself, had only found out about the plans when they were given a draft press statement the evening before the announcement to close it was made.

Mrs Saunders hit out at the council, claiming it could have saved £400,000 a year in the grant it gave to the centre and still keep the building open as an arts centre.

A few days on from Sandwell Arts Trust, which ran the centre, handing back the keys to the council, she said: "In 2009 when Sandwell Arts Trust was set up to run the project, we signed a 25-year agreement with the council.

"That had an agreement to break after two years to allow both of us to work out if The Public was a financial goer. We got to March 2011 – the council had not done anything about making their mind up."

The council has maintained that it has pulled funding for The Public as it cannot afford the £1.6m it ploughed into it every year, but Mrs Saunders said studies have showed that amount could potentially have been cut by a quarter. "Jones Lang LaSalle had identified we could keep it and reduce it by £400,000."

Mrs Saunders said she was particularly 'angry' about the job losses at the New Street site. "Some really good people that I have worked with have lost their jobs."

Wheelie bins targeted by yobs to start blazes

ARSONISTS are targeting wheelie bins in the latest spate of fires in recent weeks.

Tipton fire station's crew commander Gary Melville said crews have been called out on at least five occasions in recent weeks. In the latest attack a car caught fire after a bin was set alight on Sunday night.

Now fire crews are urging residents to be vigilant.

The most recent attacks come after a teenager was arrested and bailed after a string of fires in Walsall.

Crew commander Melville said today that arson was the 'weapon of choice'. He said: "We are having a bit of a spate of somebody setting fire to household wheelie bins. Personally we have had five in three weeks."

In the latest fire, crews from the station were called to Palethorpe Road in Ocker Hill at 11.53pm on Sunday.

The fire spread from the bin and damaged a nearby VW Golf.

Vigilant

Crew commander Melville said: "This one caught the front end of this man's car, he was quite upset about it and said we should be going out and doing more important things like saving someone's life rather than dealing with wheelie bins."

He said firefighters have also been called to wheelie bin fires in Wednesbury Oak Road and High Street in recent weeks and urged residents to be vigilant and put their bins out as late as possible.

Last month it was reported that vandals set fire to wheelie bins near homes in Walsall. Eight fires were started in three roads in Walsall, and in one blaze a terrified resident had to climb out of a window to escape as flames were blocking his front door.

The blazes happened during September and October on Ivatt Close, Pelsall Lane and Newcomen Court.

Cannabis damage £20k bill

A LANDLORD has been left with a bill for up to £20,000 for damage to a former shop that was turned into a cannabis factory, with around £295,000 of drugs inside, a court heard.

Defendant Anh Van was found hiding in the toilet of 13 Market Place, Great Bridge, when police executed a warrant there on September 18. Two rooms in the basement had been used to grow drugs, as well as two rooms on the first floor, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Written instructions had been left for the people tending to the drugs farm, and the electricity had been bypassed, said Mr Kevin Jones, prosecuting. He added: "The landlord had let the property to three Polish men and police inquiries are continuing into those three."

The case of a second man arrested at the property at the same time was adjourned. Mr Malcolm Fowler, defending, said Van had only spent two weeks working at the site before his arrest, and had pleaded guilty to production of Class B drugs at Sandwell Magistrates on September 20.

Judge Mark Eades said Van had paid £6,500 to be smuggled into the country.

Van was sentenced to 16 months jail.

School celebrates award win

Front from left, Logan Taylor, Ruby Bishop and Daniel Taylor, all aged four. Back, from left, Livvy Edwards, four, Sarah Clarke, Amy Pritchard, Liz Bishop, and Jayne Harris

STAFF and pupils at a Black Country school are celebrating after picking up an award for the work it does with parents.

St Mary's School in Wednesbury has been given the Leading Parent Partnership Award in recognition of its efforts with getting mothers and fathers involved. Amy Pritchard, who co-ordinated the award at the Manor House Road school, said: "We were ecstatic to win it because we think we have got really positive relationships with our parents and this has verified that."

Fury over council's scheme to close loos

PUBLIC toilets will be closed for good in Blackheath under plans dubbed 'a disgrace' by campaigners who petitioned for their improvement around two years ago.

Blackheath trader and former councillor Mary Docker submitted 247 signatures to Sandwell Council in December 2011, and said that apart from an acknowledgement of receipt she has heard nothing in response since.

The petition called on the council to improve the public toilets in Short Street Car Park, on Henderson Way, Blackheath.

A report to the authority's highways boss Councillor Maria Crompton last month again said the matter was still being investigated.

Now it has emerged officers are recommending the conveniences be closed.

Council officers have prepared a summary statement for Councillor Crompton to consider at a meeting today (Thursday).

Ms Docker said: "I think it's a disgrace. I know of people who have been caught short and seen the conditions inside the toilets and not felt like they could use the facility. I think it's a sad day if they decide to close the toilets. They've had all this time and done absolutely nothing."

Wonderland for museum

A MUSEUM will be turned into a winter wonderland this Sunday. The Manor House Museum in West Bromwich will be hosting a festive family fun day from 11am and 3pm.

There will be real reindeer at the site in Hall Green Road, while inside Father Christmas will be making an appearance and holding a storytime with Santa session.

There will also be various craft stalls to browse.

Members plea

A BRANCH of the Royal Artillery Association is looking to increase its membership. The Oldbury branch holds meetings at the Royal British Legion Club, Windsor Road at 8pm on the second Thursday of the month. Call secretary Bob Clarke on 0121 552 2290.

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Raids see security at stores increased

SECURITY is being stepped up at a West Midlands Co-op store after it was one of two raided on the same day.

Robbers, believed to have been carrying weapons, struck at branches in Wolverhampton and Tividale.

The branch on Penn Road, Wolverhampton, was targeted at around 7.45am on Thursday.

Police said the offenders threatened staff, before escaping in a vehicle with cigarettes and cash. No-one was injured. An hour earlier, a gang targeted a Co-op in Regent Road, Tividale.

Again, police said several offenders threatened staff, this time fleeing in a vehicle empty-handed. Police believe that the two raids may be linked.

West Midlands Police spokesman Pete Edney said high-visibility and targeted patrols would continue in the area while investigations were carried out.

Midlands Co-operative Society runs the Tividale shop. Its spokeswoman Sara Leung said: "The colleagues who were on site at the time of this incident are shaken but otherwise unhurt."

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Serious Acquisitive Crime team at Force CID in Bloxwich on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Awards hope for chip shop

A CHIP shop is in the running for a top award for the quality of its food. Chamberlains Quality Fish and Chips in Oldbury has been announced as a finalist in the National Federation of Fish Friers Fish and Chip Quality Awards 2014.

The venue on Wolverhampton Road is up against French's Fish and Chip Shop in Norfolk and Kingfisher Fish and Chips in Plymouth. Simon Shaw, Chamberlains owner, said: "We are delighted to be in the finals for the third year in succession."

Taste of library

VISITORS can take an 'edible trip' around the £189 million Library of Birmingham taking in a range of food-related activities on Saturday. National Storytelling Laureate Katrice Horsley will give an hour-long performance of a narrative from 2pm to 3pm.

Jobs boost with wine bar and restaurant

The new restaurant and wine bar in New Birmingham Road

MORE than a dozen jobs have been created with the launch of a new restaurant and wine bar in Oldbury.

Business partners Suky and Dal Johal completely stripped back the original Red Mango restaurant in New Birmingham Road and over a nine month period and turned it into two very different venues.

Work at the restaurant has included completely revamping half of the building to create a new wine bar and western dining restaurant called Leones and a full refurbishment of the original Red Mango Indian Restaurant.

Suky Johal, one of the company's partners said: "We have used local builders to make major improvements to both areas, to create two unique and contemporary restaurants.

Glamorous

"I love lost count on how much we actually invested, but it was well worth it, the building looks amazing inside and out."

More than 100 guests recently piled into the new venue for a glamorous launch party, where they could enjoy a taste of the new menus and sample drinks at the bar.

"The feedback so far has been really positive, people have said that this is just what the area needs," added Mrs Johal.

The two partners have also taken on 13 experienced servers, bartenders and chefs, which they say they hope will bring much needed jobs to the area.

Mother who survived brutal attack left asking 'what if?'

THE CHILLING words of one young mother, brutally beaten and stabbed while she was seven months pregnant, have resounded this week, after her attacker was locked up for 15 years.

The 25-year-old former partner of Andre Omar Smith stated during the court case: "I'm constantly reliving what happened and asking 'what if?'"

At the time of the attack on July 28, Rachel Kane was pregnant by her new partner, but because of the extent of her injuries, she has been told that she will not be able to have another baby.

Worcester Crown Court heard Smith, 25, of Hamstead Road, Great Barr, and Miss Kane had been in a 'turbulent' relationship until 2009. Under an arrangement, their four-year-old son was collected by his grandparents on Saturday afternoons and returned on Sunday evenings.

But on the Sunday of the attack, Smith arrived at Miss Kane's house, in Lea Street, Kidderminster, along with his young son. Miss Kane shouted through the closed front door for him to leave. Instead he smashed the glass and let himself in before punching Miss Kane to the head and abdomen.

Guilty

The court heard Smith had taken a 9in blade with him, but this was not used to stab Miss Kane – the handle being used to strike her.

When this broke, Smith got another knife from the kitchen. This was the weapon it is believed was used. The court heard Smith had continued the attack using a potato peeler.

Smith, who pleaded guilty to attempted murder at an earlier hearing, will serve at least 10 years in jail. He will also be under licence for five years following his release.

Mr Paul Whitfield, prosecuting, said following the attack, Smith had walked calmly. He said Smith was arrested at a service station in Hagley a short time later.

Andre Omar Smith

A statement from Miss Kane was read out during the hearing. She said: "Before this happened I would not have described myself as an anxious person. I was outgoing. However now I suffer from stress and depression. I'm constantly reliving what happened and asking what if? Things will never be the same again."

Miss Kane was found to have suffered six stab wounds to her abdomen and injuries to her face. Despite her ordeal she gave birth to a healthy daughter in August.

Miss Abigail Nixon, for Smith, said: "This behaviour was out of character and it was not planned." But Judge Robert Juckes QC said he 'rejected' this claim.

Detective Inspector David Williams said Smith was clearly 'a very dangerous individual'.

Long and winding road for Baggies' busking

BAGGIES may be on a bad run at the moment but surely things can't be that bad for striker Shane Long.

For hours after Albion slumped to a 2-0 defeat against Norwich City, the footballer was spotted busking on the streets of Dublin.

Head coach Steve Clarke is feeling the pressure after Saturday's mauling at The Hawthorns put the club just two points clear of the Premier League relegation zone.

But that didn't stop a party of Albion stars led by Long, Chris Brunt, Ben Foster and Gareth McAuley catching a flight to Dublin for the players' Christmas party.

Long was pictured dressed head to toe in emerald green on Twitter as he and his team-mates shook off the worries of their form with a two-day jaunt to the Irish capital. The Christmas party was planned long before Albion's slide down the table.

Before leaving, Long reflected on the club's form: "There are still points up for grabs so we can't get too down on ourselves."

Strum-thing else – Shane Long gets into party mood during the players' festive party

NEWS in brief

Advice for firms on beating snow

BUSINESSES can receive advice on how to keep running in extreme weather conditions from a new guide.

It comes as heavy snow and a harsh winter is predicted. Arco, the West Bromwich safety supplier, has drawn up the Expert Guide on Workplace Safety in Extreme Weather Conditions and made products geared towards tackling extreme weather conditions.

Copies of the guide are free by visiting the trade counter at the branch on Vector Industrial Park, Church Lane. For information visit **www.arco.co.uk/extreme**.

Good rating for primary school

A PRIMARY school has been rated good by Ofsted in all areas in its most recent visit since the Government changed the criteria for inspections.

All Saints C of E Primary School on Wilford Road in West Bromwich was given the second-highest rating in the four-point scale after a visit last month.

Inspectors rated the achievement and safety of pupils as well as the quality of teaching, behaviour and leadership. The watchdog said all pupils made consistently good progress across the school in English, mathematics and all other subjects.

Centre supports hospital charity

A SHOPPING centre is supporting a special hospital project this Christmas.

Queens Square Shopping Centre in West Bromwich is donating money to the Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospital charity, which will help the paediatric unit at Sandwell Hospital.

It is running a make a wish campaign until December 15 with adults and children asked to make a wish through a letter box in the centre.

In return, for each wish posted, the centre will donate £1 to the Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospital charity.

New classroom

A SCHOOL will add a new mobile building with two classrooms, after plans were passed. Stuart Bathhurst Catholic High School College of Performing Arts in Wednesbury will add an extra unit to a row of mobile classrooms.

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NEWS

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

ON THE surface, glamour, glitz and sweet perfection. Underneath, yuk. From what we have heard in court, the Saatchi/Nigella marriage could have come straight out of Beautiful South's hit, Don't Marry Her. The song has a wonderful (and suitably culinary) line describing the sad state of affairs "when your socks smell of angels, but your life smells of Brie."

❒❒❒❒❒❒❒❒

ANYONE else puzzled at the Government's eagerness to get people with dementia diagnosed as quickly as possible? The latest weapon in the campaign is a dementia map showing which parts of Britain are good, having the highest numbers of patients diagnosed by doctors, and which areas are bad for identifying fewer sufferers. Call me awkward but if I felt the mist descending in my head, I'd be inclined to move to one of the bad areas pretty damn quick. Most types of dementia cannot be cured and having the D-word stamped on your medical records can ruin your life on many levels, from losing your driving licence to being refused travel insurance. I bet millions of folk see no point in a diagnosis until there is some hope of a cure. Just put me down as "a bit forgetful," thanks.

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BY CHANCE, in the week that the Government urged us to take Alzheimer's more seriously, my local sweetshop started selling Senior Moment Memory-Loss Mints.

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AIR Vice-Marshal Elaine West, Britain's most senior female officer, says that one day a woman may head the armed forces. I seem to recall a woman did exactly that, a while ago. Twin-set, pearls, handbag? Come to think of it, for a few years Britain's armed forces were commanded by two women. The one with the handbag and the one with the crown.

❒❒❒❒❒❒❒❒

AS an avid online customer, I love the idea of remote-controlled drones delivering Amazon items to our back garden. For a start, it will save wear-and-tear on our pot-holed old farm track. And yet drones, as used to deadly effect in Afghanistan and Pakistan, are not foolproof. If they can deliver 500 lbs of high explosive to the wrong address, they can presumably send a boxful of birthday presents to the wrong person. There is also the tiny problem that our back garden, like so many, is equipped with a steel-reinforced drone-wrecking device. Or washing line, as we call it.

❒❒❒❒❒❒❒❒

ONE of the saddest news reports of the past few days was the discovery of a cannabis farm in the old Drakelow Tunnels near Kidderminster. It was the latest indignity heaped on a place which is a national treasure deserving of protected status. The tunnels were built in the Second World War as a factory producing aircraft engines in bomb-proof workshops deep in the solid rock. In the Cold War, the tunnels became "The Hole," the regional-government bunker from which, if the worst happened, the Midlands would be fed, watered, healed and governed. I spent a week-long exercise down there in the early 1980s when it was throbbing with life as Home Office scientists, weathermen, military officers, cops and fire chiefs planned for nuclear war. Other bunkers have been saved but Drakelow lies neglected, vandalised and latterly used for growing hash. In its own way it is as important to our island story as the caverns below Dover Castle or Churchill's war bunker. It deserves better than this.

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IN AN idle moment I voted in an online poll asking whether people who throw flares at football matches should face harsher punishment. I expected to see an overwhelming Yes vote. But at the time I cast my vote, more than a quarter of respondents had voted against tougher sanctions. This suggests thousands of fans are fairly relaxed about blazing objects being lobbed over their heads. And then you do the sums and realise that Bradford was 28 years ago. No-one under 40 really remembers what happens when a football stadium catches fire. Let us hope they never have a reminder.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Daughter of dementia sufferer 'snapped'

A WOMAN 'snapped' and stabbed her elderly mother, who had dementia, with a knife, a court heard.

Gillian Manders had been caring for her 91-year-old mother Edna for a number of years at their home in Cardigan Close, Hateley Heath, West Bromwich. Wolverhampton Crown Court heard how Manders immediately called emergency services to tell them what she had done after the incident on March 2. She admitted a charge of wounding in a case described by Judge Mark Eades as 'a tragedy'. Mr Paul Spratt, prosecuting, said the pensioner was left with a deflated lung and she required four stitches. He said: "Gillian Manders had live at the house for most, if not all, of her life.

"For a considerable time she had taken care of her mother – a role she had taken after she became unemployed in 2009. On the day in question the defendant called the police and confessed she had used a knife and stabbed out at her mother. The police attended with an ambulance and Edna Manders had a cut of two to three centimetres in diameter to the left side of her chest."

Mr Spratt said Manders admitted her guilt at the scene and at the police station. Her mother was moved to a nursing home where she recovered. Miss Kate Thomas, defending, said: "This isn't a case where someone didn't have a supportive family around. What Miss Manders needs is a reason to get up in the morning.

"She is a woman who needs employment. She is an educated person who has worked hard all her life and simply snapped." Judge Eades sentenced Manders to an 18-month supervision order. She must carry out 150 hours of unpaid work.

Expansion plans for schools get backing

PLANS to expand four schools in Sandwell to deal with the borough's baby boom have been backed by parents and residents.

Nearly 750 school places will be created when work gets under way to expand Ferndale Primary School in Great Barr, Holy Trinity CE Primary School in West Bromwich, Perryfields Primary School in Oldbury and Reddal Hill Primary School in Cradley Heath.

Schools across the Midlands have to expand to cope with increased demand following a surge in the population.

Council bosses are preparing for what they fear will be the need for an additional 1,000 pupil places every year.

In total 194 people responded to the consultation, with 129 people – more than 66 per cent – in favour of the expansions.

The biggest concern among most respondents was the impact on roads near the schools during the busy school run and the loss of a 'small-school ethos'.

But many also agreed that there was a need for more school places.

The report added: "If the proposals are agreed, the schools will of course enlarge gradually over a seven-year period."

The completion of the initial consultation means the council can now decide to send out statutory notices making people aware of the expansion.

Award given to volunteers over centre

A GROUP of volunteers have picked up an award in recognition of their hard work on the design of a new leisure centre.

The Portway Reference Group was presented with a certificate of thanks by Sandwell Council's deputy chief executive John Garrett for their work on the Portway Lifestyle Centre, which is based in Oldbury.

The group includes people with disabilities, council officers and local residents and has been involved in the design, layout and function of the lifestyle centre since 2008. They advised the council on how to make the centre accessible for all visitors who use the site.

Facilities at Portway include a sports hall, hydrotherapy pool, gym and weight area.

Crackdown on crime

A NEW police operation starts next week to crack down on thieves who target shoppers in the run-up to Christmas. Operation Tinsel will launch in West Bromwich on Monday.

Sergeant Gavin Peever, who is responsible for West Bromwich Central Neighbourhood, said: "Operation Tinsel will tackle shoplifting, theft from persons and night-time economy. Officers and PCSOs will be providing high visibility patrols and reassurance to visitors in the town centre."

It will run alongside police efforts to cut drinking in the street. Operation Holston has been running since the beginning of August. In its first 10 weeks, 92 people were made the subject of either civil intervention or police action.

High point for trampolinists

From left, Tamzin Ali, Molly Perry, Jasmine Tinsley, Jade Everett and Kirsten Oliver celebrate their success at the West Midland Championships

MEMBERS of a trampoline team are jumping for joy after sweeping the board at a regional competition.

Wood Green Academy, Wednesbury, won four titles at the West Midlands Trampoline Championship.

The school's under 13 team, made up of Tamzin Ali, Jade Everitt and Kirsten Oliver claimed first place. Kirsten also won the Under 13 Individual Championship.

Molly Perry took the Under 15 Individual category and Jasmine Tinsley won the Under 19 Individual Championship.

Headteacher Pank Patel said: "We are and continue to be tremendously proud of our trampolinists."

Cannabis farm pair rumbled after fire

TWO VIETNAMESE men paid to be smuggled into the country illegally and were then rumbled as the gardeners of a cannabis farm with drugs worth up to £1.2 million, a court heard.

Ninh Pham and Chien Tran were discovered at the industrial unit on Wattville Road, Smethwick, when fire crews were called out to a blaze on November 5. Ten rooms were full of drugs.

There was a total of 1,359 plants which could have been worth between £427,000 on the streets if they were sold in bulk, or up to £1.28m if the yield was sold in numerous smaller packages, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

The pair, of no fixed address, were linked to the scene by fingerprints dotted around the 'sophisticated' set-up, as well as DNA on a toothbrush, said Mr Kevin Jones, prosecuting. Both pleaded guilty to producing cannabis.

Kevin Jones said the 44-year-old Tran had been cautioned by West Yorkshire Police on May 15 for producing cannabis and was set to be deported. Pham, 62, was of previous good character, also pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 16 months. He will also now be deported.

Rehab centre set to relocate

A REHABILITATION centre which helps 300 people kick drug and alcohol problems every week will relocate across a borough to cut costs, after plans were approved.

The facility will now be housed at the Alberta building, Oldbury Road, Smethwick. It comes after Sandwell Council inherited responsibility for public health from the former Primary Care Trust.

The council says the lease agreed by the trust was too expensive so it is moving the service to a council-owned building instead.

Guides in call

A GROUP of senior Girl Guides is on the lookout for new adventure-loving members to join. Meetings are held at Paul & Barney's Place, Castle Road West, Oldbury. The group includes members aged between 14 and 25. For details call 172rangers@gmail.com or call 07515 450 262.

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Nothing in the coffers to fund new health sites

NINE multi-million pound health centres due to be built in Sandwell have been put on hold until at least next year, it can be revealed today.

NHS England says there is no revenue funding to build new health centres in Wednesbury, Great Bridge and in Langley, after Sandwell Council spent thousands clearing the land.

A £9 million Wednesbury health centre, a £5.6m super surgery in Oldbury and a £5m centre in Great Bridge – all of which already have planning permission – had been at the top of the agenda.

A further six projects in Carters Green and Hill Top, for Stone Cross in West Bromwich and for Cradley Heath, Dudley Port, Great Barr and Friar Park in Wednesbury are also on hold.

The former Primary Care Trust, abolished in April, ranked those six projects as high priority in 2011, setting a target of having them finished in the next four years.

Alison Taylor, of NHS England said: "Demands on the local budget are high and we have been told there is no further revenue funding this year for new premises."

Council chiefs have written to NHS England calling for them to build the three health centres where plans had progressed furthest – Wednesbury, Great Bridge and Langley – or face losing the land.

Game to help youngsters given award

A CUTTING-EDGE computer game which helps young people in Sandwell with their emotional behaviour and communication skills has won a top industry award.

Glitched was named Best Product at the LAUNCH Future Gaming and Digital Conference 2013 in Birmingham. Sandwell-based developers 3dnative created the game for Sandwell Council and charity Murray Hall Community Trust for Sandwell Shield, an emotional wellbeing service for the borough. The game was launched in April to work with children and young people who have emotional or behavioural difficulties.

Judges praised the collaboration between the public, private and voluntary sectors for the move.

Former city university librarian dies at 90

Anthony Nicholls

HE WAS known by thousands of students who attended Birmingham University, having spent 25 years working as its chief librarian.

Tributes have been paid to Anthony Nicholls, of Wolverhampton, who died days after his 90th birthday.

Mr Nicholls was also well known in Wolverhampton's Catholic community after being an altar server at SS Mary and John's Church in Snow Hill for more than 80 years. His family today said he will be remembered for his kindness and sense of humour.

Mr Nicholls was born and bred in Wolverhampton and was one of the last Bevin Boys – a group of young men conscripted to work down the mines during the Second World War.

He worked in Hilton Main Colliery and his family say he often spoke about the characters he met there.

After this, the former pupil of St Chad's College in Fallings Park went to Birmingham University where he took a degree in Classics. He later did a year-long course in librarianship and would return to the university, which family say was close to his heart. He stayed there for most of his working life, apart from a few early years in advertising at Smethwick firm Wellman Incandescent.

Mr Nicholls' son Guy, a 58-year-old priest, said: "People always remember him for his kindness and sense of humour. At the university library, he was in charge of a large staff and one of the things that has been coming through, especially since his death, is that many of his former colleagues remember him with a great affection.

"Some have said he was definitely the best boss that they ever had. For me, he was a wonderful father."

Mr Nicholls, who lived in Finchfield Gardens, was also a member of Birmingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Historical Committee.

He was a driving force in the restoration of St Peter's and St Paul's Church in North Street, which was revamped after falling into a state of disrepair in the 1960s and 1970s. Mr Nicholls was also chair of governors at SS Mary and John's Primary School.

Mr Nicholls died on November 26 after an illness. He also leaves behind wife Patricia. He also had another son Charles, who died in 2003 aged 46.

Costs mount up after high winds batter Black Country

PEOPLE across Sandwell and the Black Country have this week been left counting the costs of severe winds in the wake of storms which battered the country, causing two deaths and damage to property.

Last Thursday's wintry blast resulted in the worst tidal surges in 60 years while severe winds in the Midlands left five people injured and saw Birmingham's German Market closed. Thousands of people across the country were evacuated from their homes with reports of gusts of up to 140mph.

by Lisa Wright

One man died after he was struck by a falling tree in a park in Nottinghamshire while a lorry driver was killed when his HGV toppled on to a number of cars in West Lothian, Scotland.

More than 100,000 homes and businesses were hit by power cuts with properties in the North East, Yorkshire and North Linconshire among those affected.

In the Midlands there were reports of around 20 trees falling. In Walsall, a builder who had been carrying out some work on a patio at a home in Woodend Road was struck on his shoulders and back by a tree which fell in the back garden of the property.

The ambulance service was called shortly after 1.15pm and the man, who was in his 30s, was taken to Manor Hospital after complaining of neck and back pain.

The tree also broke several roof tiles and smashed a window pane on the patio door, causing hundreds of pounds of damage.

The homeowner, who did not want to be named, said: "My wife was home at the time. It was a shock. We were very worried but it looks like he will be okay."

Released

Staff from Walsall Housing Group were also called out after a tree fell against a two-storey block of flats in Tame Close, Walsall, at around 3pm.

Tame Close resident Lee Morgan, aged 45, said: "They responded fairly quickly and have cut up the tree. It's been really frightening because the wind was really strong. The wheelie bins were blowing around the communal garden area. We had to wedge them inbetween the sheds."

A pedestrian was also seriously injured by falling window glass in Gas Street, Birmingham and the city centre's popular Frankfurt market and craft market was closed for around two hours from 2pm after one of the stalls was blown over.

Medics were called near to the new library and treated two patients at 1.30pm. One woman, believed to be in her 50s, was assessed and later released by medics at the scene. A second female of the same age was treated at the scene for a hip injury. Tree falls were also reported across the Midlands, including across Valley Road, near to the Museum of Cannock Chase in Hednesford, at about 1.15pm.

Dozens of schoolchildren, from St Mary's Catholic Primary School in Brierley Hill and St Paul's CE Primary in Tipton, who had been visiting the museum to learn about the Second World War, were stranded for about an hour after the tree blocked off their exit.

A metal shed was blown into a tree and became stuck in Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, while a chimney collapsed on to a house roof in Wimperis Way, Pheasey.

Firefighters were called out at about 2.15pm and cordoned off the front of the home and neighbouring property.

Rail commuters travelling in and out of the Midlands on Thursday afternoon faced delays due to overhead line problems because of a fallen tree.

People were warned of disruption between Manchester Piccadilly and Birmingham New Street after a tree fell onto the railway line at Prestbury and damaged overhead wires.

Justine Howl, communications manager at Birmingham Airport said the airport had remained fully operational but some aircraft had to do 'go-arounds' if they felt it was necessary on approach.

Other distruption was reported across the country after the North Sea surge hit the north Norfolk coast and headed south throughout the night.

The Met Office said the Atlantic storm brought severe gales of between 60mph and 80mph across Scotland and northern parts of England, and some mountainous regions in Aberdeenshire and Inverness-shire reported speeds of around 140mph.

Environment Secretary Owen Paterson said: "It is really important that people take steps to prepare for flooding. Clearly our priority is public safety and I urge people to act on the advice from the environment agency, police and local agencies."

It was a lucky escape for one care worker in Birmingham when this tree crushed his car just moments after he got out. He was left shocked but uninjured.

NEWS in brief

Probe opens over man found in road

THE INQUEST on a 73-year-old hit-and-run victim has been opened and adjourned for reports.

William Fenton, from Astbury Avenue, Smethwick and who was better known to his neighbours as Bill, died after being found lying in Beakes Road, Smethwick, on November 23.

An inquest was opened last week at Smethwick Coroner's Court, High Street, into the pensioner's death.

Coroner's officer Russell Williams said: "Mr Fenton was discovered lying in Beakes Road near Stanhope Road at about 9.30pm.

"He was thought to be the victim of a non-stop road traffic collision. Mr Fenton was taken to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, where life was pronounced extinct at 10.32pm."

History project boosted by grant

A HISTORY project has been launched after a community group scooped a £52,000 grant.

The money from the Heritage Lottery Fund will pay for Darlaston All Active to spend 18 months compiling a book on local shops and clubs through the years from the 1900s.

They will also employ an apprentice and are looking for anyone with an interest in history or stories to share.

Centre manager Sharon Felton said: "We want to get as many people involved as possible."

To find out more can call 0121 5686144.

Library focuses on its services

A LIBRARY team is showcasing its services with a special Twelve Library Days of Christmas on Facebook.

The Sandwell Libraries Facebook page will be promoting a different service each day.

The initiative, which started this week, is showcasing services including free computer and gaming sessions and help with researching family history.

Visit **www.facebook.com/SandwellLibraries**

Cinders on stage

THEATRE company Fame Factory Spotlight performs Cinderella at Wednesbury Museum and Art Gallery at 10.30am and 2.30pm on Saturday and Sunday. Visit the gallery or call 0121 556 0683.

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NEWS FEATURE

IN MY VIEW WITH MARK ANDREWS

FORMER Home Secretary Jack Straw says 'there is never a good time to increase MPs' pay'.

Too right there's not. So let's make sure it never happens.

❑❑❑❑❑❑

ON a more serious note, the fact that two-thirds of MPs think that they are underpaid says much about the make-up of the House of Commons today.

Not so long ago, few people saw politics as a career. It was a hobby, an outside interest, something that people did to give something back to the community towards the end of their careers.

Then along came Tony Blair, who said that being an MP was a full-time job, and it was wrong that they had outside interests.

It might have sounded a good idea at the time, but we now have a generation of politicians who go straight from the students' union disco to the corridors of power, and think because they work full-time they are entitled to the same salary as a GP.

There was a lot to be said for the days of modestly paid, part-time MPs with a wealth of life experience.

❑❑❑❑❑❑

AND now for something completely different. Just when you thought you had seen it all, up pops John Wood who thinks he has spotted a gap in the market for a dating agency targeted purely at Monty Python fans.

Mr Wood, who is 53, has been looking for love ever since his wife left him over his obsession with the comedy series.

"Python is such an important and central part of my life which has even shaped the way I see the world, I can't imagine it being possible to be in a relationship with someone who doesn't get Python," he explained.

"I am hoping that, out there somewhere, is a gorgeous 30-something, Python-quoting single lady."

Not asking for much, is he? Talk about life imitating art.

Maybe he will take the lead of Python's Simon Zinc-Trumpet-Harris, and find himself in a fulfilling relationship with 'a very attractive table lamp', and no doubt the wedding will be spectacular.

Silly walks up the aisle, walking out to the Lumberjack song, and Spam sandwiches at the reception. What more could a girl ask for?

❑❑❑❑❑❑

HAVE you noticed its been getting a bit nippy lately? Could be something to do with the extreme temperatures that have been sweeping the South Pole.

New data reveals that the coldest ever temperature recorded on earth came in August 2010, when it plunged to -135.8 deg F (-94.7C). Then on July, 31, this year, it came close again, dropping to -135.3 deg F (-92.9C).

Clearly, something needs to be done about global warming.

Jane with Paul McCartney at the Alfie premiere, 1966

Cutting the ribbon at the 500th store with boss Jim McCarthy

The 60s starlet with her trademark redhead locks

What will Jane bring to Poundland table?

With the opening of Poundland's 500th store, star baker **JANE ASHER** hopes to change perceptions about the discount retailer

SHE WAS once the envy of practically every teenage girl in the Western world when she was the girlfriend of former Beatle Paul McCartney.

Jane Asher, actress, author, baker and for many, an icon of the swinging 60s, was a permanent fixture on the arm of the celebrated music legend, and was expected to be Mrs McCartney, having been his muse for five years.

But away from the heady days of psychedelia and yellow submarines, Jane now finds herself out of Pepperland and very much at the forefront of Poundland, having cut the ribbon on Britain's 500th discount store in Birmingham.

Since hanging up her acting boots, Jane has gone on to become renowned as a baking entrepreneur, with a bakeware collection due to be launched throughout the Willenhall-based company's stores up and down the country, early in the new year.

It is the firm's first foray into celebrity collaboration, but comes on the back of the ever-increasing popularity of home backing in the UK, which now sees an incredible one in seven Brits baking more than twice a week.

Five years ago, the idea that such a standard bearer for middle-class domesticity would have opened a branch of Poundland would have been laughed at.

Does her endorsement finally mark a watershed moment for the Black Country-based retailer, where nothing costs more than £1? She certainly believes so. The actress, who made her name alongside Michael Caine in Alfie, says she has long been a Poundland shopper. "I know Poundland, I shop there, like most people, towards Christmas, where I will pick up bits and pieces.

"I hate that awful expression 'yummy mummies', but my step-daughter who has two children, regularly shops at Poundland.

"The notion that it's just popular with people who have no money, or the downtrodden, is simply not true. Everybody needs to be sensible with their money, and that it is true across the social classes."

Poundland chief executive Jim McCarthy points out that 22 per cent of the chain's shoppers come from the higher income groups, known as AB in marketing terms, and says the tough economic climate of the last five years has played a crucial role in bringing the retailer into the mainstream.

Baking belle Jane Asher whose appeal may now go beyond the middle classes

The latest expansion programme will see a total of 21 new Poundland stores open over a five-week period, and Mr McCarthy says the company has identified 1,000 more sites with the potential of supporting another Poundland.

The chain was founded in 1990, when former Bilston market traders Keith and Steve Smith opened a pilot store in Burton-upon-Trent. At the time, many landlords were reluctant to grant them a lease, fearing they would undercut all the neighbouring stores.

But after a tentative start, the company has grown into a high street staple, more than doubling the number of stores over the last three years, and employing more than 12,000 people – including several hundred at Poundland's head offices and distribution site in Willenhall and its second warehouse site in nearby Bilston.

Agreeing

"We have had five years of recession, and a consequence of that is that people have been looking to make their money go further," says Mr McCarthy.

But given that all the indicators suggest the economy is finally showing signs of life, is there not a risk that people will begin turning away from Poundland, just when all its new stores are coming on-stream? "I don't think so, I think the changes that we have seen will prove sticky. People have become used to saving money, and they are proud that they are saving money."

Even so, Jane does say that lending her name to the new Poundland baking range was not something she did lightly.

She says she was initially approached by a company she works with, which is also a supplier to Poundland, and says she thought long and hard before agreeing to anything.

"I'm very lucky in that I have a name that people trust, and I never stick my name on something unless I either use it regularly, or have designed it myself," she says. "But when I looked into it, I thought it was a really good idea. I feel it's a way of helping people to bake who haven't done so in the past."

THROUGH THE YEARS

1983...

THE leader of Wolverhampton Council demanded urgent talks with Wolves owners, saying the club was turning the town into a laughing stock. Councillor John Bird, a Wolves season ticket holder, laid into the club's owners Allied Properties for failing to invest in the team.

STORES throughout the West Midlands were racing against time to ensure there would be no festive disappointment as the area went computer crazy. Number one on most children's Christmas lists was the Sinclair Spectrum 48K, which sold for £129.95

TONY Morley, who a year earlier had laid on Peter Withe's winning goal in Aston Villa's European Cup triumph, was sold to arch rivals West Bromwich Albion.

1993...

A PUB was refusing to accept £50 notes for fear of fraud. The Anchor Inn, at Coven, near Wolverhampton, made the controversial ruling after accepting £50 notes which had turned out to be fake.

ROY Castle was in good form as he prepared to take to the stage at Birmingham's Alexandra Theatre, despite facing a new battle against lung cancer. The 61-year-old said 'the show must go on' ahead of the opening night of Pickwick at the theatre, just three weeks after starting a new course of chemotherapy.

IT WAS an emotional moment for Wolves fans as Hungarian giants Honved returned to Molineux in a game to mark the completion of a £15 million redevelopment of the stadium. Wolves had famously played Honved in pioneering European floodlit clashes during the 1950s.

2003...

CONFUSION reigned about the opening of Britain's first toll motorway. Staffordshire Fire Service and the Road Hauliers' Association both said they believed the M6 Toll route would be opening on December 8, but within minutes of the announcement the company which was to operate the road distanced itself from the announcement.

"We have not been given a confirmed opening date," said Andrew Roache, of Midland Expressway. A spokesman for the Central Motorway Police Group said he expected it to be open on December 8 or 9.

DARLASTON'S Mark Rhodes made the final three in the Pop Idol television talent show - singing a Black Country Christmas classic. And his triumph was music to the ears of the man who wrote Slade's Merry Xmas Everybody, Jimmy Lea.

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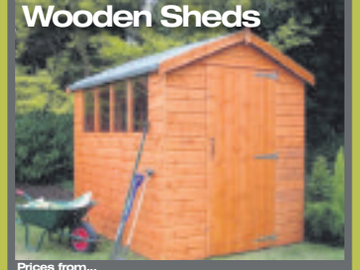

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LETTERS

Lies of leaders to justify more immigrants

IT IS now only a few weeks until thousands of Romanians, Bulgarians and Moldovans flood into the UK for a better life on our benefits system.

This country is in debt, has no jobs, a crumbling infrastructure and is now fast becoming overcrowded whilst sliding towards bankruptcy.

To all the people who still think that we should welcome immigrants to this country, I would like you to consider the future of your children/grandchildren, as they and not yourselves will be the ones to suffer. There will be no benefits, no NHS as we know it, no affordable housing and no hope. This Government and company owners will try to convince you that we need these people to do the jobs that Brits won't do. This is a lie, as they merely provide cheap labour for bigger profits.

We have millions on the dole who could be made to do these jobs for a living wage, rather than rot on benefits. When the next elections come around, please ask all potential candidates if they are prepared to demand their party stops this unnecessary influx into this country and give our own children a little hope for the future. They also need to insist that we change the Human Rights Act to suit ourselves and withdraw from the corrupt EU, without which we would be much better off.

It is a fact that they need us more than we need them, as our balance of payments shows. And it's a myth Brits go abroad for jobs, most go to retire.

You try getting a job in the EU if you don't speak the language of that country. They're not all as soft as barmy UK.

M FORD, Park Lane, Wednesbury

LETTERS to the Editor

POST
Walsall Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

E-MAIL
walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Only way is up for prices, at any cost

WHY is it when the price of crude oil rises, petrol and diesel goes up, yet when the price of a barrel is reduced, the pump price never falls? Same as the chip shop, year after year the cost of a bag of chips goes up because of the rising price of potatoes, yet when there has been a bumper harvest chip shops do not reduce their prices.

If retailers can reduce everything by 50 per cent on Boxing Day, does this mean we have been overcharged for the other 364 days of the year?

We all know about electricity and gas, these only go one way. ho can recall getting a letter from a supplier saying we have made millions this year so we have dropped our prices?

S HARRISON, Dawes Avenue, West Bromwich

Blocking off path continues

AT SANDWELL General Hospital, a staff car park is situated off Hallam Street. There is a public footpath through it to gain access to Dagger Lane. This path is marked with a notice of a £25 fine if you park in its path.

This is openly being abused; staff cars are deliberately blocking this path. I feel sorry for anyone who is disabled.

M STEEDMAN, West Bromwich

Poorest are always targets of government

WHY is it that under this third rate Government cuts and withdrawals of services always hit the poor of society, namely senior citizens and the disabled?

The announcement by Centro that free tram and train travel could be axed is deplorable.

This lifeline to the older population should be ring fenced and guaranteed by Government, as is bus travel.

Overseas aid is protected and no amount of protests from any section seem to be heard by our noble leader David Cameron.

Daily we see and read about redundancy and bonus payments, astronomical sums paid to so-called experts in their field.

Yet, the axe still falls on the most vulnerable in society.

In 2015 the axe will fall once more. Its target, the perpetrators of our demise as a once great nation.

M SAXON
Central Avenue
Tipton

What about spending cash in our areas?

I SEE another few million pounds is going to be spent on West Bromwich High Street yet again. This time in the form of a refurbish of Queens Square.

I would like to take this chance of asking a question of all 21 councillors who are supposed to represent the seven wards that make up the Warley parliamentary seat and let's not forget those in Oldbury, Tividale and Blackheath.

What are you as councillors elected to represent these 10 wards on Sandwell Council doing to see that your ward is getting its fair share of the money paid to Sandwell? Are you seeing that it is spent in the ward that your electors live in and you have been elected to represent.

Well to coin a phrase from Paul Daniels, "Not a lot". Well not as far as I, and many electors you will expect to vote for you come next May at the local elections, can see.

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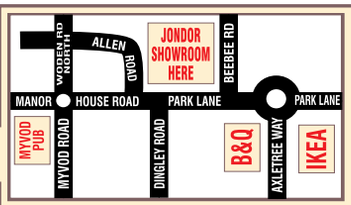

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NEWS

Kieron's riding high with events to say thank you

by Lisa Wright

JUST five years ago baby Kieron Pearson underwent a lifesaving operation to put his organs back inside his body.

The West Bromwich youngster was born with a condition called exomphalos, which caused his intestines to grow inside the umbilical cord rather than in his body.

The exomphalos condition causes a weakness of the baby's abdominal wall where the umbilical cord joins it. After his birth, medics at Birmingham Children's Hospital had just 72 hours to save his life.

Suffering

He was in and out of hospital for the first year of his life, suffering with pneumonia and breathing problems – and now Kieron is a healthy, active five-year-old little boy.

To thank and raise money for the hospital, his mother Tina Sharman and grandmother Pat Sharman set up an annual horse and dog show.

Over the last two years 62-year-old Pat and her 42-year-old daughter Tina, both from West Bromwich, have raised £10,379.63 for the Neonatal Surgical Ward and £4 million Children's Cancer Centre Appeal at the children's hospital.

This year's show at South Staffordshire College Show Ground saw more than 50 events for the horses and ponies to compete in, horse and pony riding classes, a dog show and a trade and craft stand. They are now planning for next year's event, which will take place on June 29, 2014.

HGV driver Tina said: "My family and I would like to thank Birmingham Children's Hospital from the bottom of our hearts for what they have done. We will be forever in their debt for saving Kieron's life, so we shall continue to raise funds for them for as long as we can.

"I would also like to thank everyone that was involved in the event from the stewards, judges, sponsors, businesses and competitors who made the last two years such a success and helped us raise so much money."

Vikki Savery, head of public fundraising at the hospital said: "Organising something like this is not easy so their hard work is truly appreciated."

During one of the fundraising events last year, £6,328 was raised by Kieron's family after they organised a horse show at Rodbaston equine college in Penkridge.

Anyone who would like to donate or get involved with events should email events@bch.nhs.uk or call 0121 333 8506.

All smiles – Kieron Sharman and mother Tina share a joke together

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NEWS

Swinging into Christmas with Jean

Getting in the party mood, the audience enjoying the concert by Britain's Got Talent's Jean, who is back in April

SHE is everyone's favourite grinning organ-playing granny after delighting viewers with her enthusiasm and flying fingers on Britain's Got Talent.

And Jean Martyn wowed hundreds of fans when she put on a show for a town hall full of pensioners.

by Adam Grinsell

The talent contest star turned out at Wednesbury Town Hall to get Christmas started with a swing.

She appeared at the monthly afternoon show alongside singer Debbie Miles, as the audience tucked in to fish and chips.

And organisers revealed that a return visit is already lined up.

Wednesbury ward member Councillor Elaine Costigan said: "The whole idea of the show is to help eradicate loneliness.

"We had a lady come along that gave us a cheque for £30 because she was so happy that she could get out of the house with her illness. We also had one gentleman come all the way from Solihull.

"It was a fantastic afternoon, and Jean Martyn loved it, so much so that she said she would come back, and she's booked for April."

The show was part of a programme of events by the Wednesbury Celebrates Community Association, which is helping to bring the hall back into regular use.

Festive fun – Jean Martyn at Wednesbury Town Hall

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NEWS

Drug use and burglary are top concerns

BURGLARY and drugs are the top two crime concerns for residents in the Black Country.

That is according to a West Midlands Police survey asking locals what they would like to see treated as a top policing priority in their area.

by David Banner

In total 2,041 people from the force area responded to the online questionnaire, including 289 from Sandwell, 240 from Walsall, 160 from Dudley and 98 from Wolverhampton.

A total of 64 people surveyed in Walsall said burglary was their main concern, while 40 said drug dealing and drug use was a problem. Inconsiderate parking was also a top issue.

Unsafe driving and speeding were cited as problems on routes such as Sutton Road, and in areas including Pheasey, Willenhall and Rushall. There were complaints about anti-social behaviour in Walsall Wood, Pelsall and Walsall town centre.

Key issues for those from the Dudley area were very similar to those given by Walsall residents, with 30 citing drugs as their prime concern, 29 saying burglary was their main issue and 20 stating their number one problem was inconsiderate parking. In Wolverhampton, meanwhile, residents' top two issues were burglary and drugs respectively, closely followed by speeding.

Walsall cabinet member for public protection, Councillor Zahid Ali, said anti-social behaviour was his main concern.

"Anti-social behaviour is a priority across all six of Walsall's area partnerships, so it is very much something Walsall Council is focusing on," he said. "Burglary too is a priority, as it can devastate families when it happens and ruin people's lives."

Charity tags for bereaved

BEREAVED people who want to remember their loved ones can give back to the community by buying tags for a mayor's Memory Trees. All donations raised will go to the Mayor's charities – Better Understanding of Dementia for Sandwell (BUDS) and Birmingham Midland Eye Centre. For a minimum donation of £1, people will receive a tag to put a personal message on the trees outside the Big House in Oldbury. Call 0121 569 3041 for more information.

Choir Currying favour

Rebekah Green from Perry Beeches School with Currys and PC World assistant manager Sneta Kumari

YOUNGSTERS were in fine voice as they entertained shoppers and raised money for charity. Pupils visited the Currys and PC World store at Gallagher Retail Park in Wednesbury and raised £80 from donations from visitors. Around 12 children from Perry Beeches School belted out festive classics for around two-and-a-half hours at the site in Axletree Way and the store also donated a new Nikon camera to them.

Satnam Mander from the store said: "We had Perry Beeches School come down and they did some carol singing.

"They raised £80 and we gave them a Nikon camera. They come every year and we support them. We have got a good relationship with the school and we work closely with them so whenever they want to sing to raise money for the school or other fundraising, we support them with that and each year as a good gesture we give them a free gift."

Last year the PC World store welcomed pupils from Rough Hay Primary School in Darlaston, who raised money for The Stroke Association.

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Denture Clinic

Infectious laugher, happy moments and enjoying 'me' time – meet denture implant couple John and Gillian.

Love is sharing smiles, a second chance of romance and two . . .

Transformations

Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS (Eng) (GDC108353)

LOVE is a second chance of romance, embracing life and sharing smiles – lots of them. For retired couple Gillian and John, sharing time together, enjoying holidays, meals out and trips to the theatre, life has opened an unexpected new chapter of happiness after they both lost their partners.

Their laughter is infectious and their zest for life inspirational. The widow and widower, both young 70-somethings, met at a mutual friend's golden wedding party and the rest, as they say, is history.

But John didn't only discover a new soul mate, he also found a new patient for denturist Steven Burchell DipCDT RCS (Eng).

Principal of the Denture Clinic in North Street, Dudley, Steven says: "They're such refreshing company and I am thrilled they are so happy together.

"But I'm also pleased we were able to resolve a long-standing lower denture problem for Gillian as well as create a lovely warm smile for her that suits her personality."

John recalls he was first to attend the Denture Clinic after spending nearly four years "perusing stories in the papers" about Steven's work.

Like many denture wearers he had encountered stabilisation problems with his lower denture as gums receded with the normal ageing process. "I knew I had to get something done because when I was driving my lower teeth could dance up and down," says John.

Crunchy salads

Steven referred him to dental implantologist Jon Pugh BDS MSc, with whom the denturist has along-standing professional relationship.

"I decided to go for an implant-retained over-denture which clips on to two fixings. I would never let anything stop me from enjoying a meal out before I had the implants, but things are great now. I can have steak, eat crunchy salads and feel free to have anything off the menu," he says.

Gillian had endured a similar stabilisation problem for two years and was persuaded by John to see Steven because her dentures "were always loose."

Again an implant-retained over-denture was prescribed and Mr Pugh also rebuilt Gillian's upper front teeth with crowns. The results are obvious: Natural looking, functional teeth and an engaging smile.

"Previous dental treatment could never resolve my problems. If I ate out I'd have to order soft options , but I put up with it," says Gillian.

"We laugh a lot, smile a lot and enjoy life. This is my 'me' time," she adds.

And what of their experience at the Denture Clinic? "Steven is like family to us," says John.

Steven added: "By using implant retained over-dentures we can guarantee to resolve stability issues. We prescribe and produce our dentures on the premises and it means I can be fastidious about quality."

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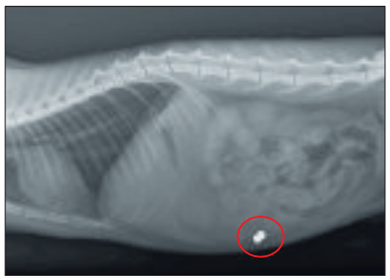
NEWS

Family's fury over thugs who shot cat with airgun

Sharon Preece with Olly who was shot with an air rifle



This X-ray shows the pellet, circled, lodged inside Olly

The pellet that Olly was struck by nearly cost his life

A FAMILY'S pet one-year old cat is recovering after being shot with an air rifle.

Olly's concerned owners only discovered his injuries after taking him to the vet in the wake of a sudden change of attitude.

Mother-of-two Sharon Preece, of Stone Cross, West Bromwich, said: "I had put him out early in the morning on Tuesday, but when he came back in he didn't seem interested in eating.

"We tried to pick him up but he growled at us. When we finally got hold of him I noticed a few blood patches and took him to the vets."

The cat was taken to Castle Vets in West Bromwich where a small hole was found in his chest. Fearing it might get infected an x-ray was taken and a small airgun pellet was found near the cat's spine.

Olly was rushed into surgery where it was discovered both his spleen and intestine had been nicked by the small pellet. Vet Samran Khan said: "It was pretty nasty, and the cat was very lucky – had it gone into the heart we would have lost him."

"We are all really angry about it," said Mrs Preece, 45. "And we want to warn other pet owners to keep an eye on their animals." The shooting has been reported to the police.

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MEMORY LANE

Billy Wright leads England out for the match against Hungary in 1953, at Wembley

Wright and Ferenc Puskas hand over mementoes before England went on to win 6-3

£10,000 delight – football historian Tony Matthews

The programme from the historic 1953 match which has been signed by all the players and officials

Historic match memento is a £10k bonus for Tony

by Daniel Wainwright

IT IS the stuff of dreams for any collector – an old football programme signed by the England team and now valued at £10,000.

Football author and historian Tony Matthews hit the jackpot more than 30 years ago when his wife Margaret bought a job lot of old programmes from someone who just wanted to clear out his garage.

It turned out that the match programme for a 1953 clash between England and Hungary was worth many times the rest of the batch combined.

Hungary, then the world's number one ranked international side and on an unbeaten run stretching 24 games, won 6-3 in front of a Wembley crowd of 105,000. Former West Bromwich Albion historian Mr Matthews, who worked for the club for 30 years, remembers little of the time that Margaret paid for the programmes, other than that there were 4,000 of them in a garage in Evesham and it took three trips to get them all.

The couple used to live in Kinver and Wall Heath but have since moved to Spain.

All of the Hungarian side had signed the programme as had most of the England team.

Mr Matthews made arrangements to visit the others whose names were missing whenever West Brom had an away match in their area.

Most of the players, apart from Jackie Sewell, Sir Tom Finney and Jeno Buzansky have since died.

Mr Matthews, aged 70, said: "At the time I was collecting programmes, trying to reach the milestone of one million. I used to advertise locally asking for any football programmes. The most I bought in one go was 40,000."

As a collector Mr Matthews got to know the values of various 'big match' programmes, particularly the ones with autographs. He said: "Regarding the England-Hungary production, I had various valuations done, by serious collectors up and down the UK, and the initial price given was £4,000. Later it was valued at £5,000 when it was 50 years old in 2003. One person in north Wales wanted to buy it there and then.

"I went on to the Antiques Roadshow in 2008 and this time it was valued, there and there, at around the £6,000 mark, but since then more players have sadly died and therefore the price has increased and now it is insured for £10,000."

Mr Matthews, who lives in the Cabrera mountains in Spain, said he intends to sell the programme once his wife agrees.

The programme is never sent anywhere and is kept under lock and key.

Last year Mr Matthews learned that he was the world's biggest-selling author of football books with 123 published. His books include West Bromwich Albion: The Complete Record and England Who's Who: 140 Years Of English International Footballers.

He has two more currently being compiled and three in the pipeline for 2015.

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Tributes for ex-Tipton Town striker after his death at 39

A SEMI-PROFESSIONAL footballer who notched up hundreds of goals during a glittering amateur career on the pitch has died at the age of 39 after a long illness.

Former Tipton Town striker Brendan Pugh had a trial at current Championship club Watford but did not want to leave the area where he made his name as a prolific goal-scorer with blistering pace.

He died at home on Tuesday December 3 and his wife was one among many to pay tribute, with others pouring in from the footballing fraternity including from the president of his former club Tipton Town.

Father-of-two Mr Pugh, who lived with his family in Hope Road, Tipton, started as a youth at Halesowen Town, and during his playing career has been at Willenhall, Stourbridge, Oldbury, Darlaston, Tividale, Toll End and Tipton Town.

His wife Nicola, 36, said: "Apparently he was very fast, and all I ever heard was how fantastic he was, and that he had an eye for goal.

Brendan Pugh with Michael Owen

Further

"He was hungry for it too, had the drive for it. Everybody admired him because of how good he was, nobody ever knocked him.

"The only thing people would have said was he should have pushed harder and gone further, but he was happy where he was.

"He didn't want to travel, he liked his comfort zone – we were once offered a relocation to Canada through his work, but he said he wasn't ready to give up football, and he would miss his mum and dad."

West Bromwich Albion season ticket holder Mr Pugh, who ran the Rising Sun pub in Tipton for eight years alongside his career as an electrician, would follow the Baggies across the country with his friends and two boys Danny, 17, and Reece, aged 13. At his funeral last week, he was carried in a blue and white striped coffin with the club's crest on, and all of the flowers were blue and white or yellow and green – the colours of his favourite away kit.

John Cross, president and chairman at Tipton Town, where Mr Pugh rem-ains one of their highest-ever scorers with more than 120 goals, said: "He was a brilliant footballer. He was the life and soul of the party."

A statement on the Willenhall Town website reads: "It is very sad to learn of the passing of Brendan Pugh, he will always be remembered for his goals, his love of the game and his sense of humour."

Pupils hedging their bets for a nicer canalside

PRIMARY school pupils have been helping to spruce up a canal by planting hedgerow saplings to improve the environment and encourage wildlife to flourish.

Children from Sacred Heart primary school in Tipton took part in a session organised by Sandwell Council and Litterwatch. The scheme was launched after The Woodland Trust donated 400 saplings for the canalside area by Coneygre Arts Centre.

Councillor Simon Hackett, the council's cabinet member for children's services, said: "This is a great scheme to improve the environment and encourage wildlife to an area which is well-used by local people.

"Well done to the young people for all their enthusiasm and effort which made the event such a success."

To volunteer for future planting sessions, call youth worker Sarah Clews on 07989 138518 or Litter Watch on 0121 544 3916.

Flats cleared after rubbish chute blaze

A FAMILY was evacuated from flats above a shop after burning paper was put in a rubbish chute.

Firefighters were called to maisonettes in Princes End, Tipton, on Sunday following reports that smoke was coming from the bin into an adjoining home.

Crew Commander Gary Melville, of Tipton fire station, said: "Someone has lit some paper which was thrown down into the rubbish chute and this paper has landed in the bin below.

"The smoke from the bin room has seeped into the neighbouring home and we had to evacuate the property.

"We used a ventilator to clear the smoke from the maisonette." Crews from the town and Wednesbury attended the fire at about 8pm."

Society staff swing into fundraising action

THE fundraising drive that has well and truly swung into action at the Tipton and Coseley Building Society has seen staff hand cheques to two Black Country charities worth collectively over £5,500.

The Tipton's annual charity Golf Day, a key date in the Society's fundraising calendar, was once again well supported by its partners with 15 teams entering this year, helping to raise £3,100.

The Tipton's Charitable Foundation also donated £2,500, meaning Beacon Centre for the Blind and Compton Hospice each received £2,800.

Lee Judson, general manager sales and marketing at The Tipton, said: "Everyone knows what a fantastic job Beacon Centre and Compton do across the region and I am so pleased that we, along with the help of our partners, have been able to help them out again.

"We have supported Beacon and Compton for so many years and we will continue to do so to enable them to continue with their valuable work."

For information on the Tipton's range of savings and mortgage products, please call the Tipton on 0121 557 2551 open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm and between 9am and 12pm on Saturdays.

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Dave Heeley, right, accepts part of the charity golf day cash, from Lee Judson

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NEWS

Goran has an ace time at Hawthorns

Baggies fan Goran Ivanisevic, left with his new shirt and right, showing off his skills during half-time at The Hawthorns

by Simon Stone

HE SAID he would rather have lost to Greg Rusedski than for the Baggies to have lost to Manchester City.

But despite his team's defeat, tennis legend Goran Ivanisevic was still thrilled to have fulfilled his dream to watch his beloved West Bromwich Albion play at home.

For Ivanisevic, who has been following Albion for almost a decade, his dream came true after organisers of the Statoil Masters Tennis tournament in London, in which he was playing, rescheduled his match against Rusedski early in the afternoon so he could get to the Black Country in time for the big game. But Baggies were unable to repeat his success, losing the match 2-3.

Ivanisevic was invited to take part in the half-time competition and was given a heroes' welcome by the crowd.

Despite the support he was unable to kick the ball through a stand shaped like a house, which would have won him £1,000 for charity.

But the star, who delightedly waved to supporters, said it was wonderful to finally be at the Hawthorns. "I have been a fan for eight years and I am glad to have finally got here," he said.

"I would rather have lost to Greg Rusedski than for Baggies to have lost to Manchester City."

Ivanisevic was presented with his own Baggies shirt to mark the occasion. Speaking to reporters, the tennis ace said it had been a great feeling to be out on the pitch.

"The crowd were absolutely fantastic," he said.

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NEWS

Walters honoured for work in cinema

Julie Walters with her husband Grant Roffey

JULIE Walters was praised for her outstanding contribution to British cinema at an awards ceremony honouring the best of independent film.

The Smethwick-born actress, whose career includes roles in mainstream blockbusters such as Mamma Mia! and the Harry Potter films, won the Richard Harris prize at the British Independent Film Awards.

Her Potter co-star Jason Isaacs who told the crowd how she 'exploded on to the national conciousness' in Educating Rita in 1983. She said she had once starred with Harris in a film called Mack The Knife which was described as a '**** of a movie'.

She said: "I have to say that his fabulous wit and wisdom and his Albert Hall size knowledge of just about most things and his sense of fun and irreverence turned that piece of something into gold dust for me".

Chores may have saved mother

Emergency services personnel at the crash scene following the collision

Lucky to be alive – Wendy Warrender

A MOTHER-OF-THREE had a lucky escape when a car collided with a van and flipped over into the porch of her house – causing bricks to fly into her lounge where she would normally have been taking a nap.

The black Vauxhall Corsa careered into the front of the house on Harvest Road, Rowley Regis, at around 11.20am on Monday. Its driver, a man in his late teens, is believed to have hit a parked white Vauxhall van as he drove down Harvest Road's hill.

The car then hit a wooden post, went through a brick wall and smashed into the porch, sending debris flying.

A brick flew through the front driver's side window of the neighbour's black Ford Escort RS Turbo. No one was inside at the time.

But a larger coping stone from the wall flew through the front window of the house and landed next to the sofa where resident Wendy Warrender, who has suffered three strokes, would normally take a daily nap.

The 57-year-old mother-of-three decided to 'potter around' instead as she was not feeling as tired as she normally does at that time.

Her decision to clean the windows in her kitchen before putting the Christmas tree up in her porch may have spared her more serious injury.

She said: "When it happened all I heard was glass breaking and thought my Rottweiler may have knocked the cabinet over. I came into the lounge and saw it.

"The coping stone came in just where my head would usually be if I'd taken a nap. I could have been killed."

The driver suffered cuts and bruises and was taken to Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital for precautionary checks. Fire crews doused the drive with water before leaving the scene as petrol had leaked from the black Vauxhall Corsa while it was on its side.

Structural engineers were also sent to the house to ensure there was no lasting impact. Windows were boarded up as several panes were shattered.

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Magic duo bring Las Vegas show

AMERICAN masters of magic Penn & Teller are returning to the UK with their spectacular Las Vegas show.

The pair have defied labels – and sometimes physics and good taste – by redefining the magic genre of entertainment, bringing lots of humour and playing a major role in making illusions hip again.

Penn & Teller will only be performing at two venues outside London and this will include Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre on June 15.

Dame Julie talks of favourite things

DAME Julie Andrews will be appearing at Birmingham's NIA next year but don't anticipate her singing My Favourite Things.

An Evening with Julie Andrews on May 24 is part of what is described as a speaking tour by the 78-year-old Surrey-born star of stage and screen.

She will share anecdotes whilst looking back at highlights from her career including the classic movie musicals Mary Poppins and The Sound of Music.

X Factor rocker in home city concert

WOLVERHAMPTON'S X Factor rocker Joseph Whelan will be bringing his Homecoming Xmas Show to The Slade Rooms in his home city on Friday, December 20.

Tickets are priced £5.50 for the gig by the singer, songwriter and guitar player.

Strictly sensational dancing line-up on the ballroom tour

Thriller nights at Jackson tribute

A DANCER strike an iconic pose associated with the late great King of Pop Michael Jackson, whose music and dance moves are celebrated in West End hit Thriller, which is coming to Birmingham this festive season.

The all-singing all-dancing cast will include Cleo Higgins, the Birmingham-born singer who briefly found fame in the teen group Cleopatra before hitting the headlines again with her appearance on The Voice.

The show will be staged at the ICC Hall 1, part of the same city centre complex as the Symphony Hall, from this Saturday to January 5. See thsh.co.uk for details.

THE FIRST celebrities to join the Strictly Come Dancing Live Tour 2014 – including a show at Birmingham NIA next month – have been announced.

Former England Rugby World Cup winner Ben Cohen, Coronation Street star Natalie Gumede and actor and funny man Mark Benton will be wowing the audience when the tour visits Birmingham on January 17.

Also taking part will be Natalie's main rivals for the glitterball, model Abbey Clancy – who got the perfect score for her disco routine on the TV show – and TV presenter Susanna Reid.

Host

The celebrity dancer line-up so far features from the early rounds Deborah Meaden and from series ten Westlife singer Nicky Byrne.

Alongside the celebrity dancers, Craig Revel Horwood, Len Goodman and Bruno Tonioli are back as the tour's formidable judges.

They will be on hand to give their expert feedback and all important scores to the celebrities and their dance pro partners.

They will be joined by former Strictly favourite Lisa Riley, who returns to the dance floor as host of the 2014 tour.

Ben Cohen said: "I love to test myself and Strictly has certainly been a challenge."

Natalie Gumede keeps dancing at Birmingham NIA

Natalie Gumede added: "I'm hugely excited to be part of the Strictly tour, it's the perfect excuse to keep dancing! Dancing for all the fans who have voted to keep me in the show will be really special, I cant wait."

See thenia.co.uk for further details.

Stacey flying in to NIA as Tinkerbell

QUEEN of the Jungle and X Factor finalist Stacey Solomon makes her theatrical debut in Birmingham tomorrow when Peter Pan – The Never Ending Story opens at the NIA.

The singing daughter of Dagenham will be playing Tinkerbell in the high-flying fantasy based on JM Barrie's classic creation.

The song that she will be singing as she fliesis the rather appropriate You Raise Me Up. Stacey will also narrate the show which will be staged Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

American music legends plan gigs

TWO major American stars of the music scene for the past five decades are coming to Birmingham next year.

Jazz and soul legend George Benson, a vocal and guitar great, will perform at Birmingham Symphony Hall on June 22. His hits include Give Me The Night and Never Give Up On A Good Thing.

Singer-songwriter James Taylor brings his band to the LG Arena on September 26.

Little Mix to start tour at LG Arena

ALL-girl pop group Little Mix will kick off their 2014 tour at Birmingham LG Arena on May 16.

Perrie, Jesy, Leigh-Anne and Jade have released two albums, debut DNA and Salute, both top 10 chart successes. They had two no1UK singles and made a better US chart debut than The Spice Girls.

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What's On!

SATURDAY'S TV 14.12.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE

Bruce Forsyth

Strictly Come Dancing BBC1, 6.40pm

Whether it was Susanna Reid being possessed by the spirit of the paso doble in Blackpool, Natalie Gumede wowing us with a Charleston, or just the expression on Brendan Cole's face when the judges suggested his rumba with Sophie Ellis-Bextor wasn't quite raunchy enough, this year's Strictly Come Dancing has provided us with plenty of memorable moments. In our eyes, all the celebs are winners, but sadly only four can make it to next week's final and be in with a chance of getting their mitts on that mirrorball trophy.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Food & Drink. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **12.45** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **1.15** Gymnastics. Highlights of the World Cup event from Glasgow. **4.00** Final Score. **5.30** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **5.50** Pointless Celebrities.

6.40 Strictly Come Dancing. Bruce Forsyth and Tess Daly host the semi-final.

8.20 Atlantis. Jason helps himself to an abandoned feast, which causes him to start demonstrating some seriously strange behaviour, and it falls to Hercules and Pythagoras to save their friend.

9.05 Casualty. A young couple seek refuge at a farm for the birth of their baby, while a man receives an electric shock from a Christmas tree, disrupting Sam and Tom's wedding plans.

9.55 The National Lottery Live. Chris Evans reveals the results of the Lotto and the Thunderball.

10.05 BBC News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day. Highlights of the latest Premier League fixtures, which included Manchester City v Arsenal at the Etihad Stadium and Newcastle United v Southampton at St James' Park; National Lottery Update.

11.55 The Football League Show. Manish Bhasin presents highlights and all the goals from today's fixtures in the Championship, League One and League Two, including Leicester City v Burnley.

1.05 Weatherview. **1.10** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.35 Film:** Teacher's Pet. (2004) **7.45 Film:** Anything But Christmas. (2012) **9.15 Film:** Animal Farm. (1954) **10.30** Reel History of Britain. (R) **11.00** Animal Park. (R) **12.00** Christmas Kitchen with James Martin. (R) **12.45** Christmas Kitchen with James Martin. (R) **1.30** Christmas Kitchen with James Martin. (R) **2.15** Coast. (R) **3.10** Doctor Who Mastermind. (R) **3.40** Weakest Link. (R) **4.30** Flog It! (R) **5.30 Film:** Tron. (1982)

7.00 Me, You and Doctor Who: A Culture Show Special. Matthew Sweet examines the enduring appeal and cultural impact of the long-running sci-fi series, with contributions by Matt Smith, Mark Ravenhill and Ken Livingstone.

8.00 Film: Tron: Legacy. (2010) Premiere. A man searching for his father is sucked into a computer-generated world and must compete in gladiatorial combat. Sci-fi adventure, with Jeff Bridges and Garrett Hedlund.

9.55 The Science of Doctor Who. Professor Brian Cox examines the science behind the long-running sci-fi series and explores the physics that allows the Doctor to travel through space and time. (R)

10.55 The Wrong Mans. A case of mistaken identity catapults two council employees into the middle of a deadly criminal conspiracy. Comedy thriller, with James Corden and Mathew Baynton. (R)

11.25 The Wrong Mans. Sam and Phil try to rescue Mr Stevens' wife. (R)

11.55 The Wrong Mans. (R)

12.25 Film: Shout at the Devil. (1976) **2.35** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Badou. **6.10** The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That. (R) **6.25** The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Canimals. (R) **7.15** Text Santa: Help with Hattitude. (R) **7.25** Bookaboo. **7.35** Horrid Henry. (R) **7.45** Text Santa: Help with Hattitude. (R) **7.50** Kick Buttowski – Suburban Daredevil. **8.00** Kick Buttowski – Suburban Daredevil. **8.15** Bottom Knocker Street. **8.30** Munch Box. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Home of Fabulous Cakes. (R) **10.30** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.25** ITV News. **11.30 Film:** Columbo: Agenda for Murder. (1990) **1.30** Doc Martin. (R) **2.30 Film:** Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban. (2004) **5.05** The Big Christmas Reunion.

6.05 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.15 ITV News; Weather.

6.30 New You've Been Framed!

7.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. With Arlene Phillips, Diarmuid Gavin, Helen Skelton and Micky Flanagan.

8.00 The X Factor. The three remaining acts head to Wembley Arena to battle it out in the first part of the final, featuring performances by the Killers and Tom Odell. Dermot O'Leary hosts. Concludes tomorrow at 7.30pm.

10.05 The Jonathan Ross Show.

11.10 ITV News; Weather.

11.25 Take Me Out. A rugby player, a student, a morris dancer and a security adviser take part. Last in the series. (R)

12.50 Jackpot247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The Hoobs. (R) **6.40** Beach Volleyball. (R) **7.30** Survival of the Fittest. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** The American Football Show. **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.55** The Simpsons. (R) **12.25** Heston's Fantastical Christmas. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. **4.00** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.05 Come Dine with Me. Fun-loving salesman Charlie Spiteri hosts the final festive dinner party in south-east London, hoping to impress his guests with a three-bird roast and a snow machine. (R)

6.35 Channel 4 News.

7.05 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. Coulson takes the war back to Centipede, and this time he brings in Mike Peterson for some super-soldier support. As they get closer to the truth, startling secrets are revealed. (R)

8.00 Cornwall: Walking Through History. Tony Robinson treks along the coastline between Plymouth in Devon and Falmouth, learning about the smuggling trade in Cornwall during the late 18th century. Last in the series.

9.00 Psychopath Night. Documentary going inside the minds of psychopaths, finding out how to spot them and counting down the top 10 mentally deranged movie characters, as selected by experts.

10.55 Film: Clear and Present Danger. (1994) Thriller, starring Harrison Ford.

1.35 Stand Up for the Week. (R) **2.20** Fresh Meat. (R) **3.05** The Silent City. (R) **3.15** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.25** 90210.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Power Rangers: Megaforce. **10.35** Slugterra. **11.00** The Great Christmas Toy Giveaway. (R) **1.05** Inside Hollywood. **1.10** World's Scariest Weather. (R) **2.05 Film:** Will You Merry Me? (2008) Comedy, starring Tommy Lioutas and Vikki Krinsky. **3.50 Film:** The Christmas Heart. (2012) Premiere. Drama, starring Teri Polo. **5.35 Film:** Mistletoe Over Manhattan. (2011) Christmas fantasy, starring Tricia Helfer and Greg Bryk.

7.15 Film: The Real St Nick. (2012) Premiere. A nurse falls in love with a psychiatric patient who thinks he is Santa, and tries to discover his real identity. Romantic comedy, with Torrey DeVitto and Callard Harris.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 The Bible. The Jews are forced into exile and slavery in Babylonia, Daniel is thrown into the lion's den and the Angel Gabriel tells Mary she has been chosen to bear the Son of God.

10.50 Film: Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves. (1991) An outlawed English nobleman recruits a group of bandits to fight for justice and protect the downtrodden. Action adventure, with Kevin Costner, Alan Rickman and Morgan Freeman.

1.50 SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **3.10** Secrets of the Vanishing Sphinx. Investigating how and why the Egyptians built the sculpture. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.20** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.10** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Winter Wipeout **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** Russell Howard's Good News **10.00 Film:** Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy (2004) **11.35** Family Guy

BBC Four

7.00 Frozen Planet **8.00** Shipwrecks: Britain's Sunken History **9.00** Borgen **11.00** Definitely Dusty

ITV2

3.00 The Only Way Is Essexmas **4.05** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here Now! Trials and Tribulations **5.10** You've Been Framed! Christmas **5.40 Film:** Johnny English (2003) **7.25 Film:** The Perfect Storm (2000) **10.05** The Xtra Factor **11.05** Celebrity Juice: Christmas Special

ITV3

3.45 Film: Columbo: Any Old Port in a Storm (1973) **5.45** A Touch of Frost **8.00** Lewis **10.00** Bomb Girls **11.00** Agatha Christie's Marple

ITV4

2.00 Film: The Appaloosa (1966) **4.00** Storage Wars **4.55** GT Academy **5.55** I Want That Car **6.55 Film:** Where Eagles Dare (1969) **10.00 Film:** Age of Heroes (2011)

E4

2.00 Film: Never Been Kissed (1999) **4.05** How I Met Your Mother **5.05** The Big Bang Theory **6.30** 2 Broke Girls **7.00** How I Met Your Mother **7.30** Suburgatory **8.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** Die Hard (1988) **11.40** The Inbetweeners

Film4

2.45 Cleopatra (1963) **7.15** The Golden Child (1986) Fantasy adventure, starring Eddie Murphy and Charles Dance. **9.00** Fracture (2007) Thriller, starring Anthony Hopkins. **11.15** Donkey Punch (2008)

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What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 15.12.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE

Gary Lineker

Sports Personality of the Year 2013
BBC1, 7.40pm
Last week we celebrated 60 years of the BBC Sports Personality of the Year award with a documentary featuring some of the show's most memorable moments. A few more amazing memories could be created in tonight's edition when Gary Lineker, Gabby Logan and Clare Balding host the 2013 programme from the First Direct arena in Leeds. Favourite to lift the trophy this time round is Andy Murray, thanks in no small part to him becoming the first British man to win Wimbledon for 77 years.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Fern Britton Meets Ken Dodd. **11.00** Wanted Down Under. (R) **11.45** Helicopter Heroes Down Under. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Regional Programme. **2.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **3.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.45** Christmas Supermarket Secrets. (R) **4.45** Lifeline. **4.55** Songs of Praise. **5.30** BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.00 Countryfile. Matt Baker visits Cornwall's Prideaux Place stately home, where US soldiers prepared for D-Day, and Helen Skelton finds out why artists flock to the south west for inspiration. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

7.00 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman reveal which couples have secured a place in the final and who will be hanging up their dancing shoes.

7.40 Sports Personality of the Year 2013. Gary Lineker, Gabby Logan and Clare Balding present this year's ceremony live from the First Direct Arena in Leeds, where the successor to Sir Bradley Wiggins will be crowned. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day 2. Including highlights of Tottenham Hotspur v Liverpool.

11.35 Film: Adventureland. (2009) Teen comedy, starring Jesse Eisenberg and Kristen Stewart.

1.15 Weatherview. **1.20** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.55 Film:** The Valley of Gwangi. (1968) **8.30** Life in a Cottage Garden with Carol Klein. (R) **9.00** Life in a Cottage Garden with Carol Klein. (R) **9.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.00** Christmas Kitchen with James Martin. (R) **11.45** Christmas Kitchen with James Martin. (R) **12.30** EastEnders. (R) **2.20 Film:** Around the World in 80 Days. (1956) **5.05** Flog It! **5.55** Ski Sunday.

6.40 Sports Personality of the Year at 60. Gary Lineker presents a look at the history of the ceremony, which has become a sports and broadcasting institution since first being held in 1954. (R)

7.40 The Great British Sewing Bee Christmas Special. Judges Patrick Grant and May Martin reunite with the four semi-finalists to show how to make gifts and decorations, including a teddy bear, a gardening belt and a satchel.

8.40 Film: The Duchess. (2008) An 18th-century duchess enduring a troubled marriage is driven into the arms of a prominent politician. Drama, with Keira Knightley, Ralph Fiennes and Dominic Cooper.

10.20 QI XL. Extended edition. With Victoria Wood, Richard Osman and Jason Manford.

11.05 Hebburn. A national newspaper publishes an extract from Jack's pregnancy diary. (R)

11.35 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. Music quiz. (R)

12.05 Sign Zone: The Culture Show: Sylvie Guillem – Force of Nature. (R) **12.35** Countryfile. (R) **1.30** Holby City. (R) **2.30** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Badou. **6.10** The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That. (R) **6.25** The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Canimals. (R) **7.15** Text Santa: Help with Hattitude. (R) **7.25** Sooty. (R) **7.35** Horrid Henry. (R) **7.45** Text Santa: Help with Hattitude. (R) **7.50** Victorious. **8.15** Bottom Knocker Street. **8.30** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Storage Hoarders. (R) **10.30** Sunday Side Up. **11.30** Sunday Scoop. **12.30** ITV News; Weather. **12.35** Inside the National Trust. **1.35** Let's Do Christmas with Gino & Mel. **2.35** Love Your Garden. (R) **3.35** The X Factor. (R) **5.40** You've Been Framed! (R)

6.05 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.15 ITV News; Weather.

6.30 The Chase: Celebrity Special.

7.30 The X Factor Results. The two finalists battle it out once more before Dermot O'Leary announces the winner. With music by One Direction, Katy Perry, and Gary Barlow with Elton John. Last in the series.

9.30 Through the Christmas Keyhole. Keith Lemon rummages through the homes of three mystery celebrities.

10.30 ITV News; Weather.

10.45 Film: Hellboy II: The Golden Army. (2008) A Action fantasy sequel directed by Guillermo del Toro, starring Ron Perlman.

12.50 The Store. **2.50** Motorsport UK. **3.40** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show: 5 Days of Christmas. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The American Football Show. (R) **7.30** Anglesey Sandman Triathlon. (R) **8.00** Jamie's Money Saving Meals. (R) **8.30** Jamie's Money Saving Meals. (R) **9.00** Jamie's Money Saving Meals. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.30** The Simpsons. (R) **2.00** The Simpsons. (R) **2.30** Gadget Man. (R) **3.05 Film:** Diary of a Wimpy Kid. (2010) Family comedy, starring Zachary Gordon. **5.00** Channel 4 News. **5.20 Film:** Fred Claus. (2007) Santa reluctantly agrees to bail his selfish estranged brother out of jail – on condition he helps to make toys for Christmas. Comedy, starring Vince Vaughn and Paul Giamatti.

7.30 Britain's Killer Storms. Feature-length documentary-drama telling the story of five major storms that battered the nation throughout 2012, hearing from people who survived them.

9.00 Homeland. As Lockhart's confirmation looms, Carrie infiltrates Tehran to support the mission, but Brody's loyalty wavers when he is reunited with a familiar face from his past.

10.00 Film: Your Highness. (2011) Premiere. Two princes – one a dashing hero, the other a selfish oaf – go on a quest to rescue a princess from an evil wizard. Fantasy comedy, with Danny McBride and James Franco.

12.05 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. Guests include Seann Walsh and Michael Buble. (R) **1.00** American Football Live. All the action from a match in the NFL. **4.45** KOTV Boxing Weekly. Lee Haskins v Jason Booth. (R) **5.15** Countdown. (R) **5.55** Suburgatory.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** Bubble Guppies. (R) **6.40** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.20** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.50** Mio Mao. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.40** Rupert Bear. (R) **8.55** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. **10.00** Power Rangers: Super Samurai. **10.35** Slugterra. **11.00** Inside Hollywood. **11.05** Stop! Police Interceptors. (R) **12.10 Film:** Battle of the Bulbs. (2010) **1.55 Film:** A Star for Christmas. (2012) **3.40 Film:** The Polar Express. (2004) **5.40 Film:** A Christmas Carol: The Musical. (2004) Musical, starring Kelsey Grammer, Jennifer Love Hewitt, Jason Alexander, Jane Krakowski and Jesse L Martin.

7.25 Film: Ghost Rider. (2007) Fantasy thriller based on the comic-book, starring Nicolas Cage, Eva Mendes and Wes Bentley. Edited for violence and flashing images.

9.25 5 News Weekend.

9.30 Britain's Favourite Christmas Songs. Festive music countdown. (R)

12.30 The Abba Years. (R) **1.30** SuperCasino. **3.10** The Gadget Show. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.05** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Doctor Who: The Ultimate Guide **8.00** Great Movie Mistakes 2013 **10.00** Family Guy **10.25** The Revolution Will Be Televised **10.55** Family Guy **11.20** American Dad!

BBC Four
7.00 Jet! When Britain Ruled the Skies **9.00** Lou Reed Remembered **10.00** David Bowie – Five Years **11.30** Evidently – John Cooper Clarke

ITV2
3.30 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here Now! Crown Jewels **4.30** You've Been Framed at Christmas **5.30 Film:** Two Weeks Notice (2002) **7.30 Film:** Land of the Lost (2009) **9.30** The Xtra Factor **10.30 Film:** The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift (2006)

ITV3
3.20 The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes **4.30** Lewis **6.40** Agatha Christie's Poirot **9.00** Lewis **11.00** A Touch of Frost

ITV4
1.25 Film: The Story of Dr Wassell (1944) **4.10 Film:** Blues Brothers 2000 (1998) **6.35** Storage Wars **7.35** Tim Vine's Punslinger **9.00 Film:** City Slickers (1991) **11.20** Didier Drogba: Sports Life Stories

E4
4.55 Film: Dear John (2010) **7.00** The Big Bang Theory **10.00** The Inbetweeners **11.10** Rude Tube: Epic Fails

Film4
3.05 Romancing the Stone (1984) **5.10** Bride Wars (2009) **6.50** Step Up 3 (2010) Dance drama sequel, starring Rick Malambri. **9.00** Battle: Los Angeles (2011) A platoon of soldiers is sent into battle against an alien invasion force that has landed on America's west coast. Sci-fi thriller, starring Aaron Eckhart. **11.15** Compliance (2012)

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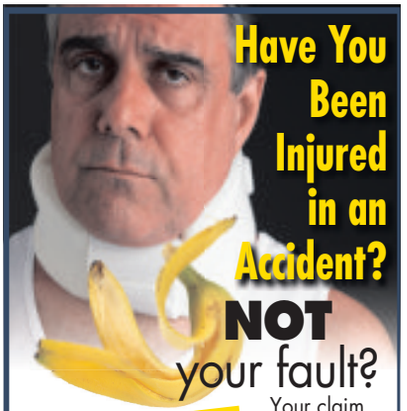

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What's On!

Film Choices

MONDAY
Cliffhanger, ITV, 11.05pm
A retired mountain rescue expert is drawn into a battle of wits with a psychopathic criminal searching for a $100million fortune lost in the Rockies - and puts his life on the line as he negotiates the treacherous mountains in a bid to stay one step ahead of the crook. Action thriller, starring Sylvester Stallone, John Lithgow, Janine Turner and Michael Rooker. (1993)

TUESDAY
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire, ITV, 7.30pm
The adolescent wizard is unexpectedly chosen to represent Hogwarts School in a prestigious magical tournament, despite being legally too young to enter. He joins champions of three magical academies to face deadly monsters in a series of challenges. Meanwhile, the followers of the dreaded Lord Voldemort plot to restore their master to the land of the living. Fourth instalment of the fantasy saga, starring Daniel Radcliffe, Robbie Coltrane, Ralph Fiennes, Michael Gambon, Rupert Grint and Robert Pattinson. (2005)

WEDNESDAY
The Terminator, Channel 5, 10pm
A cyborg assassin is sent on a murderous mission back in time to the 20th century, where he wreaks havoc while searching for his intended victim - a woman whose unborn son is destined to lead the human race in a war against machines. However, a soldier has also been sent from the future to protect her. James Cameron's sci-fi thriller, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Michael Biehn. (1984)

Tamara Drewe, Friday, BBC2, 11.05pm

THURSDAY
Mistletoe Over Manhattan, Channel 5, 1.25pm
Santa Claus's wife goes to New York to perform a Christmas miracle and give her husband fresh inspiration. She befriends a cop who is in the middle of a divorce and offers to become a nanny to his children. She then discovers he still loves his wife, and tries to find a way to bring them back together. Seasonal fantasy, starring Tricia Helfer and Greg Bryk. (2011)

FRIDAY
Tamara Drewe, BBC2, 11.05pm
A woman returns to the sleepy village where she grew up, having transformed from an awkward teenager to a successful and confident journalist. She instantly becomes the object of obsession for every man in the neighbourhood, while her sex life becomes a source of fascination for two local girls. Comedy based on Posy Simmonds' comic strip, with Gemma Arterton, Dominic Cooper and Tamsin Greig. (2010)

Pick of the Week

Murray aims to make it a truly smashing year

Heroes and villains – they're all on display in Sports Personality of the Year 2013, which this year celebrates its 60th anniversary while showcasing the most important sporting events of the past 12 months.

Whenever the show is broadcast, fans know that Christmas is just around the corner – but who will be celebrating the festive season with a shiny new trophy on the mantelpiece as well as a turkey in the oven?

During the programme, eight awards will be presented: Team of the Year, Coach of the Year, Unsung Hero, Overseas Personality of the Year, The Helen Rollason Award (a special BBC trophy for outstanding courage and achievement in the face of adversity, named after the sports presenter who died of cancer aged just 43 in 1999), and the Young Sports Personality of the Year Award. The latter is given to an outstanding competitor, aged 16 or under, selected from nominations made by Blue Peter viewers.

Watch out too for the 60th Anniversary Diamond Award, which will be handed to a sporting legend.

However, the most coveted of the lot continues to be, of course, the Sports Personality of the Year award itself.

Whether the next sportsman or woman to have their name engraved on the trophy turns out to be as laid-back as last year's winner remains to be seen.

Bradley Wiggins was clearly thrilled that the public had voted for him (he called it "probably his greatest achievement"), but unlike some previous winners, he wasn't camera-shy or stuck for words.

Perhaps Chris Froome, his successor as the Tour de France champion, may come out of top this time round. However, it would be very tough on Andy Murray following his Wimbledon win in the summer if he missed out – he's currently favourite with the bookies too.

What may go against Murray is the fact that he hasn't played much tennis since then; he's been injured for some time, which may keep him out of the voters' thoughts.

Some naysayers may suggest that the competition isn't so hot this time round. After all, last year's ceremony took place just months after the London Olympics, and arguments could have been made for a number of candidates from that event alone in the build-up to last December's evening.

But the BBC's director of sport, Barbara Slater, reckons it will be as exciting as ever: "The year includes major events such as the Ashes, World Athletics Championships, Rugby League World Cup and Women's European Football Championship as well as a packed calendar across all sporting disciplines, so we're looking forward to another exciting show."

This time, cameras, crew and celebs are heading to Leeds' First Direct Arena, and we can expect all the usual reports and highlights, although an iconic host will be missing – Sue Barker.

A few months ago she announced her decision to step down from the show, but she's leaving it in very good hands – Gary Lineker, Clare Balding and Gabby Logan are the experienced trio in charge.

Sports Personality of the Year 2013, Sunday, BBC1, 9pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY
Kirstie's Crafty Christmas
Channel 4, 8pm
These days, Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer aren't just property experts, they're also lifestyle gurus. Ms Allsopp started the trend by showing us that she's a dab-hand at all things crafty, demonstrating how to whip up our own cushions and the like on a shoestring budget. She's made no secret of the fact that Christmas is her favourite time of year, so it seems only fitting that she'd share her top tips for ensuring the big day goes with a bang. Kirstie explains how fast crafts can not only beat the clock but offer up a big impact, and first up, she's visiting a Christmas market. She speaks to expert artisans about how to make festive delights including mince pie popcorn with tree syrup and a rich red velvet Christmas cheesecake.

A Night of Heroes – The Military Awards
ITV, 9pm
Forget presenting This Morning or judging the acts on Britain's Got Talent – the highlight of Phillip Schofield and Amanda Holden's professional year is hosting this annual event. For the uninitiated, the event takes place at London's National Maritime Museum and is now in its sixth year. A total of 10 awards are given those who have made outstanding contributions to Britain's armed services. The accolades have been judged by a panel that includes Jeremy Clarkson, Andy McNab, Holly Willoughby and Lorraine Kelly, with support from four former military chiefs – General Sir Mike Jackson, Admiral Lord West, Field Marshal Lord Guthrie and ACM Sir Peter Squire.

TUESDAY
The Great British Bake Off Christmas Special
BBC2, 8pm
It's been an amazing year for the Great British Bake Off. Back in October, a peak audience of 9.1 million viewers tuned in for the final, so no wonder it's getting a transfer to BBC One in time for the next series. But before they pack up their mixing bowls and switch channels, Mary and Paul are bringing us this Christmas special, which sees them sharing some of their favourite festive recipes, from old stand-bys like stollen and a gingerbread house to the slightly more unusual likes of Scottish black bun and tunis cake. And they've also come up with an alternative to turkey sandwiches as a way of using up leftovers, in the form of Paul's hand-raised Boxing Day pie.

WEDNESDAY
Food & Drink Christmas Special
BBC2, 8pm
It seems like every show that's ever been on telly has a Christmas special, but none are more justified than this – after all, good food and nice drinks really do go hand in hand with the festive season. And what will culinary legend Michel Roux Jr and award-winning drinks expert Kate Goodman be dishing up this year? Well, since they're joined by Great British Bake Off judge Mary Berry and Michelin-starred chef Glynn Purnell, you know whatever it is will be something special. Sure enough, there's a look at how to roast the perfect goose, recipes for easy canapes, a spectacular sausage roll and a quick chocolate torte – as well as a boozy drinks round-up.

Surprise Surprise
ITV, 8pm
Granted, this series runs all year round, but really, there's no better time than Christmas to pay tribute to those who selflessly to do so much for others without expecting anything in return. Clearly, Holly Willoughby and co have been thinking along the same lines because we're being treated to a festive edition of the popular show – and they've pulled out all the stops this time, getting some big names on board. James Colbourn has been nominated by his younger sister, Sadie, for all the support he's given her since she gave birth to twin boys at just 26 weeks. And his surprise surprise? Meeting Britney Spears at The Savoy in London. Meanwhile, a Cher fan gets a special message, and Olly Murs provides music for the evening.

Text Santa, Friday, ITV, 8pm

THURSDAY
Live Celebrity Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?
ITV, 9pm
Chris Tarrant recently suggested that this former ratings-topper became a victim of the recession – in financially uncertain times, what contestants really wanted was to answer a few easy(ish) questions and go home with £10,000, rather than the chance to gamble their way to a million. But will the celebs on this live version prove a bit more willing to take a risk, or will the fact that they are playing for charity make them even more cautious? Well, one of the contestants, former Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson, definitely has a competitive streak, so he may be our best chance to see someone go all the way as he joins ubiquitous presenter and Reds fan Eamonn Holmes to play for their favourite good causes – and a viewer at home, who will have a chance to claim half the winnings.

FRIDAY
Text Santa
ITV, 8pm
It's only in its third year now, but already we feel like Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without Text Santa. This time around, the build-up towards the main event started early, with Davina McCall's summertime celeb dance show Stepping Out offering 15p from each vote to the cause, and This Morning's 'Take a Moment' campaign, which ran during the autumn contributing £167,390. And impressive though that is, it's nothing compared to what will be accomplished tonight, when presenting duos Ant and Dec, Holly Willoughby and Phillip Schofield, and Paddy McGuinness and Christine Bleakley step up for the marathon three-hour fundraising extravaganza, including star guests, sketches and the Big Reunion bands performing their charity single.

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Brain Gym

No.251

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

16	22	6	7	■	7	10	9	21	8	3	7	16
12	■	12	■	■	21	■	■	7	■	7	■	12
22	■	24	12	4	19	9 P	8	14	■	8	■	5
17	19	22	■	■	■	8 O	■	■	12	10	10	8
7	■	14	■	11	7	14	12	■	■	12	■	16
■	5	12	1	3	■	9	■	23	7	1	15	17
■	■	■	■	14	■	8	■	12	■	■	■	■
7	20	15	2	7	■	15	■	18	12	17	14	■
1	■	1	■	■	15	16	23	7	■	9	■	11
14	25	22	23	■	■	16	■	■	■	12	2	8
16	■	13	■	14	26	22	1	19	7	16	■	8
12	■	15	■	12	■	■	8	■	■	17	■	14
9	16	7	23	1	12	1	14	■	10	7	25	17

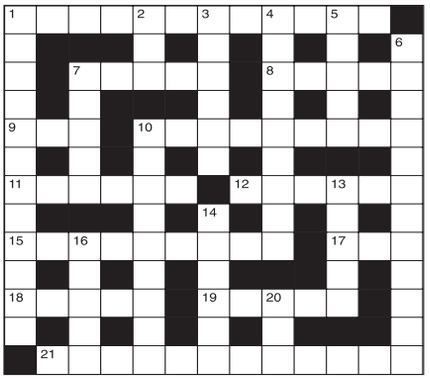
1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8 O	21
9 P	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1 I	2 B	3 A	4 T	5 Z	6 V	7 O	8 X	9 M	10 N	11 F	12 H	13 S
14 Q	15 P	16 J	17 G	18 R	19 U	20 C	21 E	22 W	23 D	24 L	25 Y	26 K

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Picks out the fellow by the vessel showing shooting ability (12)
7. Some of the extra inquiries for transport (5)
8. This is used notwithstanding (5)
9. Manage a continuous series of performances (3)
10. Girl's name needs amending - pretends to be unfit (9)
11. Emphasise the account requires money (6)
12. The show is missing from an idyllic location (6)
15. One friend is after the market in a hostile way (9)
17. Drink produces endless sign of grief (3)
18. A gently thrustful reminder (5)
19. The brute will destroy the root vegetable (5)
21. Regard as skilful - not to be dismissed lightly (12)

Down

1. What no patient would suffer at the hands of an efficient doctor? (12)
2. South Pacific always initially provides place for recuperation (3)
3. The records will show fifty in Indian currency (6)
4. Support a small railway that's not of prime importance (9)
5. I find fault - this will make you angry (5)
6. Go over to inspect what counsel has to do (5-7)
7. Is this the keynote to health? (5)
10. Wrinkles are apparent in the fellow's virility (9)
13. Teacher loses his head and makes a bloomer! (5)
14. Criticised the way the roof is covered (6)
16. Is the broadcaster so active? (5)
20. The iron rod is almost completely stripped (3)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Private (12)
7. Let (5)
8. Watery (5)
9. Small child (3)
10. Impostor (9)
11. Modern (6)
12. Current (6)
15. Postponed (9)
17. Donkey (3)
18. Leeway (5)
19. Implied (5)
21. Reproof (12)

Down

1. Revokes (12)
2. Sick (3)
3. Envelop (6)
4. Reduced to a synopsis (9)
5. Ward off (5)
6. Broadcast (12)
7. Caper (5)
10. Director of orchestra (9)
13. Precise (5)
14. Seize (6)
16. Sap (5)
20. Tin (3)

Sudoku

	2		3		7		9	
3	5						2	7
				1	6			
7			1		4			6
		5				9		
9		6	8		5			4
				3		7		
5	9			6			4	2
	6		9		8		5	

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

8	6	1	7	4	9	2	3	5
5	3	7	1	2	8	9	6	4
9	2	4	5	3	6	7	1	8
2	8	5	3	7	1	6	4	9
4	7	9	8	6	2	1	5	3
6	1	3	4	9	5	8	7	2
7	4	8	9	1	3	5	2	6
3	5	2	6	8	7	4	9	1
1	9	6	2	5	4	3	8	7

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 4 Annoyed; 8 Pencil; 9 Stained; 10 Eleven; 11 Breath; 12 Distaste; 18 Rheostat; 20 Duenna; 21 Dimple; 22 Leakage; 23 In case; 24 Tonsure. Down: 1 Spreads; 2 Inverse; 3 Cinema; 5 Nota bene; 6 Opines; 7 Erects; 13 Stranger; 14 Stop-gap; 15 Steered; 16 Tuxedo; 17 Snakes; 19 Orient. QUICK - Across: 4 Account; 8 Airman; 9 Inflate; 10 Astute; 11 Regard; 12 Encircle; 18 Positive; 20 Patent; 21 Bridal; 22 Faction; 23 Relish; 24 Repress. Down: 1 Palaver; 2 Protect; 3 Matter; 5 Congress; 6 Oblige; 7 Nature; 13 Captious; 14 Disdain; 15 Wealthy; 16 Manage; 17 Better; 19 Israel.

Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

Solid oak flooring and fitted kitchen at four-bed detached

A SUPERBLY appointed and spaciously proportioned detached property in Scott Road, Walsall includes a magnificent breakfast kitchen with built-in appliances.

It's for sale through Fraser Wood at £544,950.

With gas central heating and double glazing it has an impressive central hallway, lounge, dining room, additional study with potential for use as a sitting room or bedroom.

One of the bedrooms is currently used as a gym with en suite bathroom and there is also a breakfast kitchen, laundry room with a downstairs WC, three further bedrooms, one which is an en suite and a bathroom.

Frontage

Outside there is an extensive frontage with in and out block paved driveway, side garage, additional stores or potential bedroom and an extensive rear garden.

The entrance hallway has understairs storage and the rear lounge has an inglenook with flame-effect gas fire and beam effect to the ceiling.

The dining room has solid oak flooring and patio doors to a rear terrace and pyramid roof light.

The downstairs bedroom with en suite bathroom has a built in wardrobe and French doors to the garden.

The kitchen includes three ovens, a five-burner hob, extractor, two fridges and two freezers, dishwasher, extensive granite worksurfaces, a drawer warmer and microwave.

Upstairs is a grallery landing with access to the bedrooms including master with balcony, fitted furniture and a dressing room.

For further information contact Fraser Wood on 01922 317007 or visit **www.fraser-wood.co.uk**

Well-presented accommodation

AN EXTREMELY well-presented and deceptive, four-bedroomed property in Attlee Road, Bentley, Walsall, has versatile accommodation including a ground floor bedroom ideal for a dependent relative or teenager.

The extended property, which includes a 19ft lounge, is for sale through Skitts Estate Agents priced £119,950.

It has three first floor bedrooms, a fourth ground floor extended bedroom, downstairs cloakroom, upstairs bathroom, kitchen, lobby, side hallway, reception hall, off road parking, part double glazing, gas central heating and a garden.

The lounge has a fireplace with a gas fire and patio doors to the garden, while the side lobby has fitted storage and units.

For further information contact Skitts Estate Agents on 01902 212742 or visit the website at **www.skitts.net**

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West Bromwich

Boulton Road
A well presented mid terraced property. Briefly comprising of Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Rear Gardens, Double Glazing and Central Heating Where Specified. Viewing essential to appreciate this property. Energy Rating D (67)
£98,500

Oldbury

Dovey Road
A semi-detached property briefly comprising of Three Bedroom, One Reception Room, Fitted Kitchen, Cloakroom, Bathroom, Front and Rear Gardens, Double Glazing and Central Heating Where Specified. Energy Rating 50 (E)
£100,000

WEST BROMWICH

Elizabeth Road
Wortonkelly are pleased to offer for sale this well presented semi detached property. Briefly comprising of Three Bedrooms, Two Reception Rooms, Kitchen Utility Room, Conservatory, Cloakroom, Bathroom, Front and Rear Gardens and Off Road Parking. This accommodation also benefits from having Double Glazing and Central Heating Where Specified. A viewing is highly recommended. Energy Rating 55 (D)
£105,000

WEDNESBURY

Hydes Road
Wortonkelly are delighted to offer for sale this detached modern style home in the desired area of Wednesbury. This property comprises of; two bedrooms, a lounge, a kitchen, a bathroom, an integral garage with drive to front, a garden to the rear of the vicinity as well as double glazing and central heating where specified. This property requires some attention to help it reach its full potential so a viewing is essential. Energy Rating 50 (E).
£110,000

West Bromwich

Monkgate Drive
An intermediate modern family home in a desirable estate; accommodation comprising of Lounge, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Rear Garden, Allocated Parking, Alarm System, Central Heating and Double Glazing Where Specified. No Upwards Chain●● Energy Rating 79 (C)
£125,000

WEST BROM

Beaconsfield Street
Wortonkelly are delighted to offer for sale this well presented, semi detached property in the area of West Bromwich. Briefly comprising of; three bedrooms, two reception rooms, a family bathroom and fitted kitchen. This property also accommodates a garden to the rear of the vicinity and a driveway suitable for at least three vehicles to the front. Also benefiting from double glazing and central heating where specified. A viewing is essential to truly appreciate what this home has to offer. ●●No Upwards Chain!●● EPC-TBC.
£125,000

West Bromwich

Jayne Close
A semi detached property. Briefly comprising of Three Bedrooms, One Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room, Family Bathroom, Front and Rear Gardens, Double Glazing and Central Heating where specified. EPC- TBC
£130,000

Oldbury

Moore Crescent
Wortonkelly are pleased to offer for sale this well presented property. This property offers; four bedrooms, lounge, kitchen/diner, WC, family bathroom and a garden to the rear, double glazing and central heating where specified. This property was renovated 3.5 years ago, this included replacement windows (guaranteed and with FENSA), complete electrical re-wire (with the Building Regulation Certificate), Boiler and central heating install (Building Regulations Certificate), cavity wall insulation, loft insulation, damp proof course, fitted kitchen and fitted bathroom. Energy Rating - 49 (E).
£140,000

WEST BROMWICH

Haywoods Farm
Wortonkelly are delighted to offer for sale this lovely detached house located in West Bromwich, with no upward chain. Comprising of 3 bedrooms (1 with en suite), 2 reception rooms, family bathroom, cloakroom, garage and off road parking, double glazing and central heating where specified. A viewing is recommended to truly appreciate this property. EPC-TBC.
£155,000

West Bromwich

Heath Lane
Wortonkelly are pleased to offer for sale this deceptively spacious traditional semi detached family home with many original features, located in West Bromwich. This property comprises of; two reception rooms and a fitted kitchen to the ground floor. The first floor includes three bedrooms and a bathroom. This property also accommodates a garden to the front and rear of the vicinity and a garage. This could be your ideal family home and, in addition, benefits from having double glazing and central heating where specified. A viewing is highly recommended. ●●No Chain!●● Energy Rating 41 (E).
£175,000

WEST BROMWICH

Hydes Road
Wortonkelly are delighted to offer for sale this immaculately presented semi-detached property in the desired area of West Bromwich. This property provides the perfect environment to build a family home. Comprising of; three bedrooms, two reception rooms, a cloakroom, a fitted kitchen and utility room, a family bathroom, a conservatory, a garage, a garden to both the front and rear of the property and double glazing and central heating where specified. A viewing is highly recommended to truly appreciate this delightful accommodation. Energy Rating 58 (D).
£200,000

West Bromwich

30 Woodward Street
WortonKelly are delighted to offer for sale this well presented, 3 bedroom detached property located in West Bromwich. This property comprises of; 3 bedrooms, cloakroom, lounge, kitchen, family bathroom, conservatory, garage and allocated parking to the front of the vicinity. This home also benefits from having double glazing and central heating where specified. A viewing is recommended to truly appreciate this property.
£220,000

WEST BROMWICH

Beacon View Road
●●ATTENTION INVESTORS●● ●●CASH PURCHASERS ONLY●●

WortonKelly are pleased to offer for sale this well presented fourth floor duplex style flat situated in the area of West Bromwich. Briefly comprising of lounge and kitchen diner to the upper level, two double bedrooms and bathroom to the lower level. A viewing is highly recommended to truly appreciate this property. Energy Rating 63 (D)

Walsall

Radford Close
Mid terraced property in need of modernisation. The Property briefly comprises of Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Cloakroom, Three Bedrooms, Store Room, Family Bathroom, Double Glazing and Central Heating Where Specified. Viewing highly recommended. Energy Rating 59 (D)
£85,000

West Bromwich

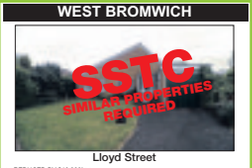
John Street
A well-presented semi-detached property. Briefly comprising of Three Bedrooms, One Reception Room, Fitted Kitchen, Cloakroom, Family Bathroom, Front and Rear Garden, Central Heating and Double Glazing where specified. ●● No Upwards Chain! EPC- TBC
£90,000

West Bromwich

Campville Crescent
Pleased to offer for sale this semi-detached property. Briefly comprising of Three Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, One Reception Room, Utility Room, Family Bathroom Front and Rear Gardens, Central Heating and parking to the rear. Energy Rating 65 (D) ●●No Chain!
£120,000

WEST BROMWICH

Hall Green Road
WortonKelly Are Pleased To Offer For Sale this well presented semi-detached property. Briefly comprising of Original Features, Three Bedrooms, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room, Downstairs wc, Family Bathroom, Off Road Parking, Rear Gardens, Garage, Double Glazing and Central Heating Where Specified. NO UPWARDS CHAIN!! Energy Rating 60 (D)
OIEO

WEST BROMWICH


Lloyd Street
●●REDUCED BY 710,000!●●
Wortonkelly are delighted to offer for sale this well presented detached bungalow in the desired area of West Bromwich overlooking Sandwell Valley park. This property comprises of three bedrooms, one reception room, fitted kitchen, family bathroom, utility room, off road parking, garage, front and rear gardens and central heating and double glazing where specified. ●●NO UPWARD CHAIN!●● Energy Rating 46 (E)

West Bromwich

Schofield Avenue
●Half Price Application Fees On All Lettings Properties For A 2013 Move In!●
WortonKelly are pleased to offer to let a double room to let within this wonderful property. The double room is furnished and the tenant will have access to the Lounge, Bathroom and Kitchen which will be shared with the owner. All bills are included within the £100 PW rental price and the owner has stipulated that any interested parties must be over 30 and employed. EPC- TBC
£80 PW + Fees

West Bromwich

289b Walsall Road
Wortonkelly are delighted to offer to let this 1st floor flat. This property is conveniently located close to local shops and amenities. This property briefly comprises of 2/3 bedrooms, fitted kitchen and reception room and has a separate entrance to the back of the building with communal parking. This property is available to let immediately. DSS is considered. Energy rating 28 (F).
£400 PCM + Fees

West Bromwich

94b Walsall Road
●Half Price Application Fees On All Letting Properties For A 2013 Move In!●
Wortonkelly are delighted to offer to let this immaculately presented flat in the area of West Bromwich. This property makes an ideal family home consisting of a lounge, modern kitchen, a study room, a cloakroom, three bedrooms, fitted bathroom and a rear garden. Energy Rating 72 (C).
£475 PCM + Fees

Dudley

Cornflower Crescent
●Half Price Application Fees On All Lettings Properties For A 2013 Move In!●
Wortonkelly are pleased to offer to let this semi-detached property located in Dudley. Briefly comprising of Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Double Glazing and Central Heating. Energy Rating 52 (E) Available immediately for 6 months to long term. No Pets, DSS Considered.
£495 PCM + Fees

West Bromwich

New Swan Lane
●Half Price Application Fees On All Lettings Properties For A 2013 Move In!●
WortonKelly are pleased to offer to let this mid terrace property. Briefly comprising of Large Lounge dining room Modern Fitted Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, shower room, Rear Garden, Double Glazing and Central Heating. Available September 6 month - long term. Energy Rating 50(E)
£500 PCM + Fees

West Bromwich

Church Vale
●Half Price Application Fees On All Lettings Properties For A 2013 Move In!●
WortonKelly are delighted to offer to let this end terrace property located in West Bromwich. Briefly comprising of Lobby, Lounge, Dining Room, Cellar, Three Bedrooms, Down Stairs Bathroom, Double Glazing and Central Heating Where Specified and Rear Garden. Energy Rating 58 (D)
£500 PCM

West Bromwich

Booth Road
●Half Price Application Fees On All Lettings Properties For A 2013 Move In!●
Semi detached property. Briefly comprising of Large Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Good Sized Rear Garden, Large Driveway, Double Glazing and Central Heating. Available immediately from 6 month - long term, Energy Rating 36 (F)
£500PCM + Fees

Darlaston

Boswell Close
●Half Price Application Fees On All Lettings Properties For A 2013 Move In!● REDUCED TO £525
WortonKelly are pleased to offer to let this semi-detached property, with accommodation comprising of Lounge, Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Front & Rear Gardens. The property will be available Mid June 2013 due to Refurbishment, however viewings will take place prior to this date. DSS & Pets considered, Energy Rating 58 (D)
£525 PCM + Fees

West Bromwich

219 Whitehall Road
●Half Price Application Fees On All Lettings Properties For A 2013 Move In!●
WortonKelly are delighted to offer to let this well presented, mid terrace property located on Whitehall Road, West Bromwich. This property comprises of; three bedrooms, two reception rooms, family bathroom, fitted kitchen, utility room, parking to side and front and a garden to the rear. This property also benefits from having double glazing and central heating where specified. A viewing is highly recommended to truly appreciate this home. No DSS & Pets specified. EPC-TBC.
£550 PCM + Fees

West Bromwich

4 Mason Street
●●Half Price Application Fees On All Letting Properties For A 2013 Move In!●●
Wortonkelly are pleased to offer to let this well presented, 3 bedroomed mid terrace property located on Mason Street, West Bromwich. This property comprises of; three bedrooms, two reception rooms, lobby, kitchen, bathroom and a garden to the rear of the vicinity. This property is available immediately. A viewing is recommended to truly appreciate what this accommodation has to offer. Sorry DSS is not accepted. Energy Rating 48 (E).
£550 PCM + Fees

Wednesbury

33 Wolverhampton Street
●Half Price Application Fees On All Lettings Properties For A 2013 Move In!●
Wortonkelly are pleased to offer To Let this semi-detached property briefly comprising of one reception room, kitchen and shower room to the ground floor, three bedrooms and a bathroom to the first floor, also benefiting from double glazing, central heating, front and rear gardens. Energy Rating 69 (C)
£550 PCM + Fees

West Bromwich

Harrington Croft
●Half Price Application Fees On All Lettings Properties For A 2013 Move In!●
An immaculately presented detached property in the desired area of West Bromwich. The property briefly comprises of Four Bedrooms, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room, En Suite to Master, Family Bathroom, Off Road Parking, Rear Garden, Garage, Central Heating and Double Glazing Where Specified. Viewing highly essential! No upwards Chain!● Energy Rating 73 (C)
£1,200 PCM + Fees

Tel: 0121 588 5666 | Email: enquiries@wortonkelly.com | Web: www.wortonkelly.com | 130 Walsall Road, Stone Cross, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B71 3HN.

wortonkelly Residential Sales & Lettings

Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

from All the Staff at

wortonkelly
Residential Sales & Lettings

CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

December 23rd - Closed
December 24th - Closed
December 25th - Closed
December 26th - Closed
December 27th - Closed
December 28th - Closed
December 30th - Open 9.00am–1.00pm
December 31st - Open 9.00am–1.00pm
January 1st - Closed
January 2nd - Open 9.00am – 5.30pm

Property

Semi-detached home on market at £94,950

BARTRAMS SALES AND LETTINGS

THIS two-bed semi-detached is situated in Marsh Lane, West Bromwich.

On the market with Bartrams for £94,950, the property has two reception rooms, both with laminate flooring. A kitchen has window to rear elevation, two to side elevation, electric oven and gas hob, stainless steel sink and drainer, wall and base units to match, plumbing for washing machine, splash back tiling, tiled flooring and door to side elevation. Both first floor bedrooms are doubles and the bathroom has a suite comprising bath, WC, wash basin, tiling, walk-in shower and vinyl flooring. The property comes with off-road parking and paved rear garden,with lawn. Call 0121 601 9370.

BARTRAMS
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CROOKHAY LANE, B71 2NE

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating
- Large Driveway
- Freehold

£129,950

MARSH LANE, B71 2DP

NEW

- A Semi Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Double Glazing & Central Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Freehold

£94,950

CHARLEMONT CRESCENT, B71 3DA

- A Detached Bungalow
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating Double Glazing
- Vacant Possession

£164,950

CRANKHALL LANE, WS10 0DY

NEW

- An End Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Freehold

£99,950

MARSH LANE, B71 2DP

NEW

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Majority Double Glazing
- Conservatory

£99.950

STONEY LANE, B71 4EZ

NEW

- A Detached Bungalow
- Two Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
- Garage And Freehold
- No Upwards Chain

£174,950

CREED WAY, B70 9JW

- An End Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms, En Suite
- Central Heating and Double Glazed
- Freehold

£154,950

Wishing Everyone A Very Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year From The Staff At Bartrams Sales And Lettings

CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

Friday 20th December – 9:00am – 3:00pm
Saturday 21st December - CLOSED
Monday 23rd December – 9:00am – 1:00pm
Tues 24th Wed 25th Thurs 26th - CLOSED
Friday 27th December – 9:00am – 3:00pm
Saturday 28th December – 9:00am 12:00am
Monday 30th December – 9:00am 1:00pm
Tues 31st Dec, Wed 1st Jan - CLOSED
Thursday 2nd January – Open As Normal

ANDREW ROAD, B71 3QQ

- A Semi Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms, Corner Plot
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Garage, Driveway, Freehold

£154,950

MEYRICK ROAD, B70 0JW

- A Modern Town House
- Four Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Freehold, Garage

£144,950

LAKESIDE ROAD, B70 0PN

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms, Freehold
- Majority Double Glazed, Central Heating
- Off Road Parking, Rear Garden

£110,000

WHITTINGTON CLOSE, B71 3EX

- A Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Vacant Possession And Freehold

£109,950

HEATH LANE, B71 2BN

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Freehold

£144,950

BASSETT ROAD, WS10 0HH

- A Mid Terrace Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Majority Double Glazing & Central Heating
- Freehold & Driveway

£94,950

GRIFFITHS ROAD, B71 2EH

- An End Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- External Double Glazing
- Vacant Possession

£97,950

ASTER WAY, WS5 4RX

- A Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms, Freehold
- Two Reception Rooms
- Garage, Off Road Parking

£249,950

HEATH LANE, B71 2BH

- A Detached Property
- Six Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Two Reception Rooms And Freehold

£299,950

SOMERSET ROAD, B71 1HA

- A Detached Property
- Four/ Five Bedrooms
- Central Heating and Double Glazed
- Paved Driveway, Two Reception Rooms

£214,950

Bartrams Sales and Lettings Limited C Reg 4757350
132 Walsall Road, Stone Cross, West Bromwich, B71 3HP
Tel: 0121 601 9370
Web: www.bartrams.com
E-mail: enquiries@bartrams.com

Property

Extended home with a variety of features

A STUNNING and pleasantly positioned extended four bedroomed semi-detached property with a garden backing onto playing fields, 88 Planks Lane, Wombourne has access not far away to the canal system, for anyone enjoying walking.

Including a modern re-fitted kitchen and extended dining area, it is for sale through Berriman Eaton at £259,950.

Being mainly double glazed and having central heating, it has an entrance hall, lounge, extended dining room, kitchen, rear lobby, four bedrooms (master en suite and two with built-in wardrobes), a bathroom, fore-garden and block paved driveway parking, garage with an automatic door and workshop/storage area, and a rear garden with a patio, raised decking area, ornamental wall with a lawn etc beyond. In more detail the entrance hall has wooden flooring while the lounge has wooden flooring and a feature fireplace.

There is an archway to the dining room which has patio doors to the garden. The kitchen has a fridge and dishwasher, built in double oven and gas hob with extractor over and wooden flooring.

For further information contact Berriman Eaton on 01902 326366 or visit the website **www.berrimaneaton.co.uk**

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WEST BROMICH
NEW

Self contained office building. Comprises kitchen, off road parking, spacious yard area to rear, 5 offices over 2 floors together with toilet facilities. Multiple vehicle parking. Must be viewed.
WILLIAM STREET 500 PCM

BILSTON

LET AGREED
End Terrace, Porch, , Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, 3 Beds, Bathroom and gardens to front and rear. Must be viewed.
Slim Avenue £395 PCM

GREAT BRIDGE
NEW

2 bed 1st floor apartment in popular location close to local amenities and transport links. accomodation comprises entrance hall,fitted kitchen,through lounge, bathroom and 2 double bedrooms. communal gardens and parking. Ideal for 1st time buyers or property investors.
FISHER STREET £52,950

TIPTON

ACCOMODATION COMPRISES LOUNGE, MODERN KITCHEN, BATHROOM, 2 BEDROOMS, ELECTRIC HEATING THROUGHOUT AND GARDEN.
CARNEGIE AVENUE £450 P.C.M

TIPTON

LET AGREED
Grnd. FLR FLAT /MODERN FITTED KITCHEN/ LOUNGE AREA/LIVING SPACE/ DBLE BEDROOM /BATHROOM/ WC/ COMMUNAL GARDENS
ELIZABETH WALK £335 PCM

TIPTON

2 Bed Semi in popular location. Entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, 2 double beds. Front and Rear Garden. Off road parking, part dble glazed and part gas central heating.
15 CENTRAL AVENUE £495.00

TIPTON

SSTC
Beautifully presented top floor flat comprising of: Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Lounge with Feature Fire & Balcony, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom & Separate WC. Off Road Parking.
CHURCHFIELD AVE £52,950

www.timothydaniels.co.uk info@timothydaniels.co.uk

APEX ESTATE & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

APEX ESTATE & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

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DPS
primelocation.com

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WEST BROMWICH
WOOD LANE

LET
3 bedroom end of terrace property, 2 reception rooms, ch and dg. ground floor bathroom with overhead shower. available unfurnished.
£499 pcm

WEST BROMWICH
DUNKIRK AVENUE

LET
3 bedroom spacious property, spacious lounge, central heated and double glazed. first floor bathroom. Available unfurnished. Off road parking
£550 pcm

WEST BROMWICH
LODGE ROAD

APPLICATION IN
Spacious 3 bedroom property, 2 spacious reception rooms, central heated and double glazed, available unfurnished.
£500 pcm

WEST BROMWICH
SYDNEY CLOSE

3 bedroom property with spacious lounge, ch and dg. Kitchen with dining space. first floor bathroom. off road parking available unfurnished.
£525 pcm

Many more 2 & 3 bed prperties available in
West Bromwich, Tipton, Dudley, Walsall, Bilston & Wolverhampton

WEST BROMWICH
GORDON AVENUE

APPLICATION IN
Spacious 3 bdroom property, kitchen with dining area, central heated and double glazed. First floor bathroom. Must be viewed to be appreciated. Near the Menzies school and college.
£550 pcm

WEST BROMWICH
WINCHESTER ROAD

large 3 bed semi-detached property in Hilltop area, 2 reception rooms. newly refurbished. central heated. first floor bathroom. new carpets. unfurnished
£550 pcm

WEDNESBURY
BRUNSWICK PARK ROAD

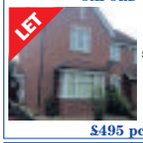
LET
one bedroom flat, spacious reception, ch & dg available unfurnished. off road parking
£450 pcm

TIPTON
WHITEHOUSE STREET

LET
2 bedroom town house, lounge, kitchen with dining area, central heated and double glazed, first floor bathroom, seperate w.c. Available unfurnished.
£500 pcm

TIPTON
LEVESON DRIVE

LET
2 bed modern town house, spacious lounge, central heated and double glazed, first floor bathroom. off road parking
£525 pcm pcm

TIPTON
OXFORD WAY

LET
Modern 2 bedroom property, spacious lounge, kitchen, first floor bathroom, ch and dg. off road parking. Must be viewed.
£495 pcm

WEST BROMWICH
WALSALL STREET

LET
one bedroom flat above shops, available part furnished, double glazed windows where specified. storage heaters.
£330 pcm

DUDLEY
SOUTHGATE WAY

Modern 2 bedroom apartment, open plan kitchen. fitted bathroom. economy heating and double glazed through out. designated parking. Available unfurnished. Must be viewed
£495 pcm

OLDBURY
MCDONALD CLOSE

LET
3 bedroom link-detached property, spacious lounge, kitchen with dining area, ch and dg. first floor bathroom. Garage and drive. Must be viewed
£595 pcm

WEDNESBURY
MANIFOLD WAY

LET
Modern 1 bedroom apartment, ch and dg, wood flooring, bathroom with shower. available unfurnished. designated parking space.
£399 pcm pcm

WEST BROMWICH
KINITHS CRESCENT

LET
3 bedroom semi-detached property in a prime location, spacious through lounge, first floor bathroom, central heated and double glazed, off road parking. High spec finished, must be viewed.
£600 pcm

WEST BROMWICH
HARRINGTON CROFT

LET
Modern 2 bedroom apartment on the ground floor, large reception room. good size kitchen and bathroom, ch & dg, designated parking. .
£550 pcm

WEST BROMWICH
JEFFERSON PLACE

LET
Modern ground floor apartment situated near sandwell hospital off Grafton road, spacious open plan kitchen and lounge, 1 bedroom, fitted bathroom. secure allocated parking.
£430 pcm

WEDNESBURY
ELWELL STREET

LET
First floor one bedroom flat, spacious lounge, ch and Dg, Must be viewed. Modernised.
£400 pcm

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Tel: (0121) 532 2700 email: enquiry.support@apexproperties.co.uk

Property

Extended link-detached home priced £205,000

AN EXTENDED link-detached home in superb order with a refitted kitchen/breakfast room and 30ft 5-ins dual aspect lounge/dining room in Oak Road, Oldbury includes a side utility/store that was a former garage.

It is for sale through Humberstones Homes at £205,000. It has a porch, entrance hall, lounge/dining room, kitchen, breakfast room/second reception room, a conservatory, side utility/store, three bedrooms, a bathroom and front and rear gardens.

In more detail the lounge/dining area has a bay window and archway between the two, with the lounge section having a feature fire surround with an electric fire and a door to the garden.

The kitchen has laminate flooring, under unit lighting, a double electric oven with a halogen hob and extractor over, a fridge and dishwasher. The conservatory has laminate flooring and a ceiling light fan.

Upstairs bedroom one has built-in wardrobes while the bathroom has a bath with a shower over. At the front of the home is a gravel driveway for more than one vehicle.

The rear garden is south facing and includes lawn and a patio area. For further details call Humberstone Homes on 0121 6787788 or visit **www.humberstoneshomes.co.uk**

A contemporary house with no chain involved

THIS lovely detached house in Haywoods Farm, West Bromwich with a garage, driveway and gardens is for sale through WortonKelly at £155,000 with no chain.

It has an entrance hall with stairs to the first floor and a door to the lounge, a cloakroom with a tiled wall, WC, basin and a vanity unit, a lounge with a gas coal effect fire with a surround, understairs storage and an archway to a dining room, a kitchen with an electric oven and gas hob and cooker hood.

Upstairs bedroom one has an en suite with a shower cubicle, part tiling, a basin and vanity unit. Bedroom two overlooks the rear while bedroom three overlooks the front. The bathroom has a bath, shower, basin and vanity unit, WC, extractor fan and part tiling.

Outside the front garden has a driveway for off-road parking, a lawned area, borders and shrubs while the rear garden has a slabbed patio area, lawn area with border and shrubs and a brick barbecue. For further information contact WortonKelly on 0121 5885666 or visit www.wortonkelly.com

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www.goodchilds-uk.com

Great Barr
SCARSDALE ROAD

- Three Bedrooms
- Semi-Detached
- Kitchen/Diner
- Front & Rear Gardens
- SORRY NO DHSS

£595 pcm

Wednesbury
ALDER ROAD

- FOUR Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Extensive Kitchen
- Large Driveway
- SORRY NO DHSS

£575 pcm

Great Barr
CURBAR ROAD

- Three Bedrooms
- Semi-Detached
- Excellent Condition
- Off Road Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

£550 pcm

Wednesbury
TAME CROSSING

- Two Bedrooms
- Entrance Hallway
- Canal Views
- Allocated Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

£475 pcm

Great Barr
WARREN FARM ROAD

- Two Bedrooms
- Second Floor Apartment
- Lounge/Diner
- Fitted Kitchen with Appliances
- SORRY NO DHSS

£475 pcm

Wednesbury
SPROAT AVENUE

- Three Bedrooms
- Semi-Detached House
- Good Size Kitchen
- Downstairs W/C
- SORRY NO DHSS

£475 pcm

Darlaston
THE WOODS BANK

- Two Bedrooms
- First Floor Apartment
- Entrance Hallway
- Good Sized Bedrooms
- SORRY NO DHSS

£475 pcm

Exclusive Apartments at Myvod Road, Wednesbury
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4 x One Bedroom
Ground Floor, First Floor & Second Floor

2 x Studio Apartments
Ground Floor & First Floor

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Wednesbury
ADDISON TERRACE

- One Bedroom Flat
- Ground Floor
- Lounge/Diner
- Modernised Kitchen
- SORRY NO DHSS

£ 425 pcm

Friar Park
MANIFOLD WAY

- One Bed Apartment
- 3rd Floor
- French Doors
- Allocated Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

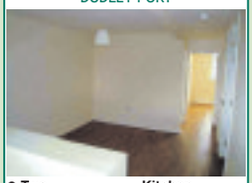
£395 PCM

Darlaston
BARFORD CLOSE

- One Bedroom
- End Terraced House
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking
- DHSS considered

£395 pcm

Tipton
DUDLEY PORT



- Two Bedrooms
- First Floor Flat
- Seperate Kitchen
- Lounge
- SORRY NO DHSS

£395 pcm

Wednesbury
WALSALL STREET

- One Bedroom
- First Floor Flat
- Shower Room
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- SORRY NO DHSS

£ 395 pcm

Stone Cross
PRINCESS GROVE

- Two Bedrooms
- First Floor
- Separate Kitchen
- Quiet Location
- SORRY NO DHSS

£395 pcm

Wednesbury
MANIFOLD WAY,

- One Bedroom
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Gas Central Heating
- SORRY NO DHSS

£375 PCM

BILSTON
MAPLE COURT

- One Bed Flat
- Fitted Kitchen
- Secure Parking
- FULLY FURNISHED
- SORRY NO DHSS

£375 PCM

Darlaston
PINFOLD STREET

- Two Bedrooms
- Duplex Flat
- Fitted Kitchen
- Close to Town Centre
- SORRY NO DHSS

£375 pcm

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The new Volvo XC70 is rugged and an ideal companion for outdoor pursuits

The XC70 is a typical Volvo and designed with safety in mind. Prices from £32,390

Versatile new Volvo is safe bet all round

By Bob Hickman

VOLVO has always been known as a manufacturer of safe, robust and reliable cars, and now it has produced a third generation of the XC70, which is more refined than ever.

The Volvo XC70 can be used during the week as an elegant car and transforms at the weekend in to a great partner for outdoor pursuits.

It has a rugged look, with a larger grille, redesigned headlamps and contrasting protective sections, with chrome mouldings at the bottom of the doors.

The rugged look is just that. There is never going to be a situation where the XC70 will be a genuine off-roader, sufficient to say it looks the part and will enable you to venture down green lanes, in to the car boot field and possibly the boat slipway.

The interior is design at its best, every small detail has 100 per cent focus on a clean image. I suppose you could say it is the typical Swedish image that we expect – no frills, no bells, no whistles, everything doing its job and being ergonomically designed to ensure comfort for driver and passenger.

There is a choice of interior colour – Sandstone Beige, Anthracite Black or Espresso Brown.

Focal

The colour screen, five inch or seven inch, is a focal point of the vehicle. The position is high so the driver doesn't have to avert his eyes from the road. All functions can be operated from the steering wheel.

Bluetooth enables hands-free phone conversations and music streaming, although Luddites like me still slot a CD into the system and get their music that way. Bluetooth is a feature throughout the whole range and not just the top spec.

In addition, technophiles will love a mobile application, an extension of the Volvo On Call app, which makes sure drivers can stay in touch with their parked cars via an i-Phone or android smartphone.

The vehicle is very spacious. Even the luggage compartment has been designed in the same way.

The XC70 is available with a choice of a petrol engine or two diesel derivatives.

The petrol option is a mighty six-cylinder, 2953cc with a top speed of 130mph and a not too embarrassing 0-60 of 6.9 seconds. But quite high CO2 emissions mean it is an expensive vehicle to tax for a year at £460.

The two diesel options, 1984cc and 2400cc, have the brilliant five-cylinder engine, which is music to my ears. I love odd cylinder configurations and the sound they make. Power outputs are 163bhp and 205bhp, with top speeds similar at just under 130mph.

Score

Where the diesels score heavily over the petrol is in the running costs, with CO2 emissions of 139g/km and 179g/km for the automatic box options, taking them down into the realms of £120 and £215 per annum road tax.

The driving dynamics of the XC70 was always going to be solid, capable, and reliable. It was never going to be a fleet of foot vehicle, but Volvo engineers have done their homework in the handling department and the vehicle is a comfortable, smooth companion on all types of terrain, including multi-pothole roads.

There is a whole list of extras, so if you are in the market for this sort of vehicle, you really do need to spend some time talking with the sales staff at a Volvo dealership.

There is, for example, a pedestrian detection device with full auto brake to help the driver detect dangerous situations and help avoid the nightmare scenario of hitting a pedestrian.

There is a second generation WHIPS, a Volvo system to avoid neck injuries, a collision warning with full auto brake, also City Safety – the list goes on.

One feature new to me is an adaptive cruise control feature, this automatically maintains a set gap between the vehicle in front.

Prices for the Volvo XC70 range from £32,390 for the Start/Stop SE diesel and top out at £42,585 for the petrol derivative.

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Motoring

The MINI and the iconic British 1960s models are popular in Japan where the new model was launched

Good looking MINI big in the land of rising sun

Fresh from its world debut at the Cowley plant where it will be built, the new third-generation MINI has made its Asian debut at the Tokyo Motor Show.

Both the modern MINI, and the original Issigonis Mini before it, are extremely popular in Japan where its strong British identity and high degree of personalisation hold strong appeal.

The third generation version will build on that with its enhanced looks and specification.

The new MINI will initially be available in Cooper, Cooper D and Cooper S forms with new engines on all models.

These are a three cylinder petrol, three cylinder diesel and four cylinder petrol respectively, each using turbocharging for maximum efficiency and performance. Each comes with a six-speed manual gearbox as standard plus the option of a six-speed automatic on all models.

Inside the MINI has a revamped cabin with a choice of new displays including a large 8.8-inch monitor, more space for passengers and luggage and clever LED lighting.

The new MINI goes on sale in the UK in the Spring of 2014, with prices starting at £15,300 for the Cooper, £16,450 for the Cooper D and £18,650 for the Cooper S.

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‡Fuel consumption and CO_2 figures are obtained for comparative purposes in accordance with EC directives/regulations and may not be representative of real-life driving conditions. Factors such as driving style, weather and road conditions may also have a significant effect on fuel consumption.

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^Additional £500 incl. VAT at 20% is valid on all new Alfa MiTo & Giulietta versions ordered between 18 November – 24 December 2013 and excludes Alfa Giulietta Model Year 2014. The £500 incl. VAT is over & above all current advertised retail offers during this period. Vehicles must be registered by 31 December 2013 and the offer can be used in-conjunction with PCP, HP or a cash purchase. Retail Sales only, excludes Fleet & Personal Contract Hire. Terms & conditions apply. Whilst stocks last.

†On the road price includes 12 months road fund licence, vehicle first registration fee, delivery, number plates and VAT. Figures and prices are correct at time of publishing. Vehicles must be registered before 31 December 2013.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO_2 emissions: 373 - 88g/km.#

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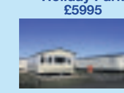
caravans / motorhomes

PEUGEOT BOXER 320, 2 berth Motorhome, 1997, 84,000 miles, taxed and MoT'd, £12,500. 01543 579050. 07831 397724.

3 Bed Caravan For Sale
at Wide Horizons Holiday Park
£5995



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mind, body & soul

psychics

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what's on

christmas events

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West Bromwich.
Sat 14th December
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Tickets Including Food £4.
07711 430888

3 Home & Services

collectables & memorabilia

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pc's, laptops & accessories

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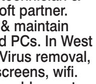

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4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

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guns & dogs

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pets corner

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Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

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vets

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business directory

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6 Property

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8 Motoring

cars over £1500

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01785 822114, 07976 805337.

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01543 426833.

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07990 664853.

NISSAN PRIMSTAR 1.9 CDTi Diesel, 2009, six speed, 40mpg, one very careful owner, sh, cd. Air con, remote alarm locking. Immaculate red paintwork, towing equipment, new MoT and tax. Looks and drives as new, Service history.
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07586 50 1170.

PEUGEOT 207 1.6 VTi Sport, grey, 07 reg, 49,000 miles, MoT June 2014, FSH, excellent condition, £3,000. 07824 558310.

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CITROEN XSARA, 2002, 135,000 miles, green, MoT, diesel, tax, good runner, phone daytime, £625 ono. 01902 870736.

DAEWOO MATIZ SE 1.0 2003, taxed and MoT'd, 69,000 miles, new cambelt fitted. £950. 07932 084639, 01922 646437.

NISSAN MICRA 993 cc, 3 door, 2002 reg, in red, 66,000 miles, 1 former keeper, MoT and taxed, excellent £895. 07522 041997.

PEUGEOT 106, 2001, 12 months MoT, taxed, excellent condition, £975. 01889 881807.

PEUGEOT 206 1,4 diesel, 2002, 78,000 miles, silver, full MoT, £30 tax, nice condition, £995. 07960 400391.

RENAULT CLIO, 2002, 75,000 miles, green, abs, electric windows, air con, alarm, long MoT, alloys, £650 ono. 01384 232586.

SKODA OCTAVIA, 2002, 91,000 miles, green, MoT'd and taxed, excellent condition, £950. o.n.o. 01543 422011.

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4, 4 door, 1999, 8 months tax/MoT, 98,000 miles, clean. £395. 07908 895870.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 Breeze, 5dr, 1999 (R), 6 months tax and 7 months MoT, lovely reliable runner, £545 ono. 01785 662463.

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FORD TRANSIT SWB 115, 2011, 18,200 miles, FSH, Metallic paint. Excellent condition £9,850. 07748 091467.

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9 Local Information

public & legal notices

EDITH MARY (otherwise MOLLY) TURNER (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 680 Hagley Road West Oldbury West Midlands B68 0PN, who died on 22/10/2013, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 14/02/2014, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
SILKS SOLICITORS LIMITED
27 Birmingham Street Oldbury
West Midlands B69 4DY *T396807*

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Hanson Quarry Products Europe Ltd trading as **Hanson Aggregates** of **Ashby Road East, Shepshed, LE12 9BU** is applying to change an existing licence as follows:

To add an operating centre to keep **2** goods vehicles and **0** trailers at **Hanson Concrete, Rowey Way, Oldbury, Warley, B69 3EH.**

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the **Traffic Commissioner** at **Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF** stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough Councilof Sandwell (Devon Road and Harborne Road, Smethwick) (Temporary No Waiting At Any Time Restriction) Order 2013

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in order to prevent obstructive parking and as a road safety measure, the Borough Council of Sandwell intends, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily introduce 'No Waiting At Any Time' restrictions at the following locations in Smethwick:

Street Name	Side of Street	Location
Devon Road	North	From its junction with Harborne Road to a point 19 metres north-east of that junction
Devon Road	South	From its junction with Harborne Road to a point 19 metres north-east of that junction
Harborne Road	East	From a point 16 metres north-west of its junction with Devon Road to a point 9 metres south-east of that junction

3. The Order will take effect on 20th December 2013, and may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until permanent 'No Waiting At Any Time' restrictions have been introduced, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the restriction should be directed to Kira Fleck of Sandwell MBC Highways on 0121 569 4051.

DATED this 12th day of December 2013
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services,
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Halesowen Street, Rowley Regis) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2013

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in order to facilitate the replacement of a defective manhole, the Borough Council of Sandwell intends, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in a south westerly direction in Halesowen Street, Rowley Regis between Bassano Road and the roundabout located at the entrance to the supermarket.
2. The alternative route for south westerly bound vehicles will be via Bassano Road, High Street, Long Lane, Horner Way and Halesowen Street.
3. The Order will take effect on 5th January 2014, it is expected that the work will be completed and the road re-opened on that same day. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to Dave Shone of Amey (who are working on behalf of Severn Trent Water) who can be contacted on 01785 624150 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Baldwin Street, Smethwick) (Temporary Road Closures) Order 2013

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Borough Council of Sandwell, in order to facilitate a sewer connection to a new housing development by Barratt Homes, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice intends to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in the following roads in Baldwin Street, Smethwick from its junction with Cutler Street to its junction with the most southerly stretch of Baldwin Street.
2. The alternative route for vehicles will be via Messenger Road, Thomas Street, Price Street, Cutler Street and vice-versa.
3. The Order will take effect on 29th January 2014, and it is expected that the work will take until 25th February 2014, to complete. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to Tom Harrison of Friel Construction (working on behalf of Barratt Homes) who can be contacted on 01922 708860 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Bull Street and High Street (Princess Parade), West Bromwich)) (Temporary Road Closures) Order 2013

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Borough Council of Sandwell, in order to facilitate the demolition of a number of properties at the junction of Bull Street / High Street by Coleman's demolition (working on behalf of Sandwell MBC), in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice intends to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in the following roads in West Bromwich:
   - Bull Street from its junction with Scotland Passage to its junction with High Street.
   - High Street (Princess Parade) from its junction with Scotland Passage to its junction with Bull Street / West Bromwich Ringway.
2. The alternative route for vehicles will be via Overend Street, High Street and vice-versa.
3. The Order will take effect on 6th January 2014, and it is expected that the work will take until 7th March 2014, to complete. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to Peter Etterick of Colemans Demolition on 0121 325 2424 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

Dated this 12th day of December 2013
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough Council of Sandwell (John Wesley Way, Old College Drive, River Walk, Waterside Avenue, Tame Crossing, Wednesbury) (20MPH Speed Limit Zone) Order 2013

The Borough Council of Sandwell in exercise of its powers under Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with the provisions of Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, hereby makes the following Order:-

1. No person shall drive any vehicle at a speed exceeding 20mph on any of the lengths of road specified in the Schedule to this Notice.
2. The provisions of this Order shall not apply to:- any vehicle on an occasion when it is being used for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes, if the observance of that provision would be likely to hinder the use of the vehicle for the purpose for which it is being used on that occasion, or to a vehicle being used:-
   (a) for Serious Organised Crime Agency purposes, or
   (b) for training persons to drive vehicles for use of Serious Organised Crime purposes. However, (except where it is being used for training by the person by whom it is being driven), the exemption does not apply in relation to a vehicle unless it is being driven by a person who is being trained in driving vehicles at high speeds.
3. The Order shall not apply to a vehicle if it is a vehicle used for naval, military or air force purposes and that vehicle if it is being driven by a person or a member of the armed forces of the Crown on an occasion when:-
   (a) the person driving the vehicle is a member of the special forces as defined in the Road Traffic Exemptions (Special Forces) (Variation and Amendment) Regulations 2011; and
   (b) the vehicle is being driven:
      (i) in response, or for practice in responding, to a national security emergency by a person who has been trained in driving vehicles at high speeds; or
      (ii) for the purpose of training a person in driving vehicles at high speeds.
4. This Order shall come into effect on 24th day of December 2013, and may be cited as The Borough Council Of Sandwell (John Wesley Way, Old College Drive, River Walk, Waterside Avenue, Tame Crossing, Wednesbury) (20mph Speed Limit Zone) Order 2013.

Schedule

(John Wesley Way) (Old College Drive) (River Walk) (Waterside Avenue) (Tame Crossing, Wednesbury)	Their entire lengths

Dated this 12th of December 2013
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

Proposed Toucan Crossing in Walsall Road, West Bromwich

1. Notice is hereby given that the Borough Council of Sandwell proposes under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, to construct a Toucan Crossing in Walsall Road, West Bromwich, located approximately 240m south of its junction with Greenside Way.
2. A copy of the map showing full details of the proposed location of the crossing may be inspected at the offices of the Area Director Street Scene, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands B69 3DE between the hours of 9am - 5.30pm Mondays - Thursdays and 9am - 5pm on Fridays.
3. Any person wishing to make a representation in respect of this proposal should contact Kelly Adams, Directorate of Street Scene, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, B69 3DE or email highways@sandwell.gov.uk by no later than 3rd January 2014.

The Borough Council of Sandwell (A461 Burnt Tree To Black Country New Road) (Red Route) Variation Order No.1 2013

Notice is hereby given that the Area Director – Street Scene on behalf of the Borough Council of Sandwell and under the powers confirmed on him under Section 10(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, has modified the Borough Council of Sandwell (A461 Burnt Tree to Black Country New Road) (Red Route) (Experimental) Order 2012 as follows:-

1. The Borough Council of Sandwell (A461 Burnt Tree to Black Country New Road) (Red Route) (Experimental) Order 2012 is hereby varied and shall have the effect of:
   (a) amending the 'Red Route No Stopping At Any Time' and replace with 'Red Route No Stopping on Mondays - Fridays between 7.00am - 7.00pm' delineated on Drawing Number 38898 S/4 being outside Nos. 16 - 20a Horseley Heath, Tipton.
   (b) removing the Red Route restriction of 'No Stopping At Any Time' over a length of approximately 10 metres in St. Pauls Drive and more particularly delineated on Drawing Number 38837 S/4.
2. A copy of the modified Order has been added to the deposited documents and may be examined together with a plan showing the location of the variation at the offices of the Area Director Street Scene, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE between the hours of 9am - 5.30pm Mondays - Thursdays and 9am - 5pm on Fridays.
3. Any person wishing to make representation or objection to the modified Order must do so in writing to Mr Irfan Choudry, Highways Services Manager, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE or by email: highways@sandwell.gov.uk by no later than 12th June 2014.

Dated this 12th day of December 2013
S HANDLEY, Area Director Street Scene
Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands B69 3DE

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF SANDWELL (ALBION STREET & ROWAY LANE, OLDBURY) (TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES) ORDER 2013

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in order to facilitate a gas connection to a new waste recycling plant in Union Road by Carillion (working on behalf of Fulcrum Connections), the Borough Council of Sandwell, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, has made an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in the following stretches of road in Oldbury:

   Albion Street (Phase 1)
   Salop Street to Dudley Road.
   The alternative route for traffic will be via Dudley Road, Salop Street and vice-versa.

   Albion Street (Phase 2)
   Roway Lane to Salop Street.
   The alternative route for traffic will be via Dudley Road, Dudley Road East, Roway Lane and vice-versa.

   Roway Lane (Phase 3)
   Albion Street to Union Road.
   The alternative route for traffic will be via Roway Lane, West Bromwich Street, Fountain Lane, Bromford Road, Oldbury Ringway, Dudley Road, Dudley Road East and vice-versa.
2. It is anticipated that the work will be phased, with phases 1 and 2 being carried out week beginning 16th December 2013. Phase 3 is expected to commence on 6th January 2014, and take 3 weeks to complete.
3. The Order will take effect on 16th December 2013, it is expected that the work will be completed by 25th January 2014. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to Steve Bramley of Carillion who can be contacted on 07972 224646 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

DATED this 12th day of December 2013
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Section 53 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Staffordshire (Rowley Regis) Definitive Map and Statement
The Borough Council of Sandwell (Dudley Road East, Brades Hall, Tividale, Rowley Regis,West Midlands) Definitive Map Modification Order 2013

The above order made on 3rd December 2013, if confirmed as made, will modify the Staffordshire (Rowley Regis) Definitive Map and Statement for the area by adding to them two footpaths one from the north side Dudley Road East Brades Hall Tividale Oldbury West Midlands to south west of the River Tame the other a connecting footpath to the south east of the Gower Branch canal Oldbury as described on the map annexed to the order.

A copy of the order and the order map may be seen free of charge at the offices of the Borough Council of Sandwell at Sandwell Council House Freeth St Oldbury West Midlands between 9am to 5.30pm Mondays to Thursdays and between 9.00am to 5.00pm Friday. Copies of the order map may be bought there at a price of £1.00.

Any representation or objection relating to the order must be sent in writing to the Area Director Street Scene, Sandwell Council House, Freeth St, Oldbury, West Midlands B70 8RU, marked for the attention of Definitive Mapping, not later than 12th February 2014 and applicants are requested to state the grounds on it is made.

If no representations or objections are duly made to the order, or to any part of it, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Borough Council of Sandwell, instead of submitting the order to the Secretary of State (or part of it if authority has by notice to the Secretary of State so elected under paragraph 5 of schedule 15 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) may itself confirm the order (or that part of the order).If the order is submitted to the Secretary of State (in whole or part), any representations or objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with it.

Dated this 3rd day of December 2013.
Steve Handley, Area Director Street Scene
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, Warley, West Midlands B69 3DF

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Lewisham Road, Smethwick) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2013

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in order to facilitate the construction of a new road layout associated with a new housing development by PXP West Midlands, the Borough Council of Sandwell, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, intends to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in Lewisham Road, Smethwick from its junction with Sydenham Road to its junction with Middlemore Road.
2. The alternative route for vehicles will be via Halfords Lane, Birmingham Road, Holyhead Road, Middlemore Road and vice-versa.
3. The Order will take effect on 6th January 2014, it is expected that the work will be completed and the road re-opened by 31st January 2014. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to Fraser Harrow of Forkers Ltd (working on behalf of PXP West Midlands) who can be contacted on 07854 412079 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

Dated this 12th day of December 2013
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regeneration and Economy
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010

I hereby give notice that Sandwell Council has received the following applications under the planning acts which it is required to give public notice for the reason given at the beginning of each group of applications.
This is a major application.

DC/13/56569	Mr S.S & B.S Dubb	Land Adj 5 Rawlings Road & Rear of 460 - 470 (evens) Bearwood Road Smethwick B66 4HA	Demolition of existing buildings, including manufacturing workshops, retail unit and residential dwelling, and erection of 16 (1 bedroom) flats.

Members of the public may inspect copies of these applications at Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE
(between 8.00a.m. and 5.30p.m. Monday to Thursday, and 8.00a.m. to 5p.m. Friday) or via the Council's Public Access website (www.sandwell.gov.uk).
Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications can do so via the website, or should write to the Council at the above address within 21 days (and 21 days for Listed Building or Conservation Area consent) of the date of this advertisement quoting the application reference number.
MR NICK BUBALO, Area Director – Regeneration and Economy

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on 01902 713146
or email
marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

IN BANKRUPTCY
BIRMINGHAM COUNTY COURT
NO. 2315 OF 2007 **RE: CAROL POULTON**
D.O.B: 30 December 1941
I intend to pay within four months *from 29th January 2014* (being the last day for proving) the first and final dividend of 4.05 p/£.
Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must do so *by 29th January 2014* otherwise they will be excluded from the dividend. The required proof of debt form is available on the Insolvency Service website (www.bis.gov.uk/insolvency, select "Forms" and then form 6.37). Alternatively, you can contact my office at Ground Floor, Copthall House, King Street, Newcastle Under Lyme, Staffs ST5 1UE, telephone 01782 664189 to supply a form.
Mr S J Fearns, Official Receiver and trustee

MADELINE DOROTHY ANNETTS (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 76 Pitcairn Road Smethwick West Midlands B67 5NE, who died on 08/06/2013, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 21/02/2014, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
QUALITYSOLICITORS TALBOTS
Inhedge House
31 Wolverhampton Street Dudley
West Midlands DY1 1DB *T396910*

10 Personals

personal

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MALE LATE 60'S DIVORCED Fit and active, financially secure, keen on holidays and weekends away. WLTM Lady, retired with similar interests, no ties and own transport. Don't be alone this Christmas, I'm available and looking for some company. Photo and phone number for reply. Wolverhampton, Sandwell, North Birmingham area preferred. Reply if you dare!
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Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

OVER 40'S CHRISTMAS DINNER Party. Friday 20th December. 4 course meal £30pp. Advance booking only. Tracy: 07576 457372 or www.whenthemusicstops.com

OVER 40'S CHRISTMAS DISCO Party Night at Hatherton House Hotel, Penkridge, on Sunday 15th December. Bring all your friends! £5 entrance. *Advance booking only. Contact Tracy 07576 457372.

SPEED DATING, Penn, Wolverhampton. Ages 30-45 Wed 11th Dec. Ages 40-55 Wed 18th Dec. www.whenthemusicstops.com or call Tracy: 07576 457372.

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sports clubs

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general

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Regarding a Traffic Incident on March 18, 2013, at 7.20am a white BMW (BK61 THV) and a Thandis Coach (XIL 8977).
Travelling along Great Western Way A461 travelling towards Horseley Heath.
Appealing for any witnesses to contact me on 0121 557 7282.

Baggies leave their fightback too late

Albion 2 Man City 3

Football

A LATE and valiant rally by the Baggies brought two goals in the final 10 minutes.

It will be hoped the defiance symbolised by Albion's flurry stems the flow of confidence out of Steve Clarke's team after four dispiriting outcomes.

They have seen leads against Chelsea and Villa flatline and now suffered successive defeats.

Maybe they were always going to lose this one because City came here with the most devastating attack in the Premier League and their vital captain Vincent Kompany returning to stabilise a defence regarded as fragile whenever it leaves Manchester.

For the second time in five days, the West Midlands witnessed a celebrity debut at one of its Premier League venues.

Albion-devotee Goran Ivanisevic probably got more entertainment in the first 30 minutes than Prince William received in all 90 at Villa Park last Saturday.

As all the cameras searched for the man whose affections were captured by Albion when he watched "The Great Escape" from afar, it was the absence of Youssouf Mulumbu which was felt more keenly on the pitch.

With his marauding ability to snaffle possession and disrupt the opposition removed because of suspension, Clarke's team were exposed still further to the slick offensive unit.

Sergio Aguero was terrifyingly good, while Edin Dzeko picked away still further at the uncertain form of Jonas Olsson.

The outcome was two wonderful goals Albion were powerless to prevent – a ninth-minute Aguero finish from a move of cutting fluency orchestrated by Dzeko and Pablo Zabaleta, followed by a 23rd-minute Yaya Toure strike, applied with side-footed certainty from another cross from a raiding full-back, this time Aleksandar Kolarov on the left.

Albion were trapped between the devil of pressing such deadly opponents and the deep blue sea of what further damage might be inflicted upon them.

But a 0-2 deficit forced their hand and to their credit, by the time the first half closed there were fragments of hope. Toure slammed home a spot-kick to put City out of sight.

Clarke turned to his bench after an hour and flooded the team with some fresh energy – a strategy which brought Zoltan Gera back on to the pitch. In truth, he looked ring-rusty, as well he might.

But a surge of renewed enthusiasm from Vydra and Anichebe saw Baggies close on an upbeat stroke.

A lovely Vydra-Berahino link in the 84th minute brought a clearance hacked into City's net off Costel Pantilimon before, in added time, Anichebe made it two.

Berahino is Albion's Defoe says Anichebe

ALBION striker Victor Anichebe says young-gun Saido Berahino can be the Baggies' answer to Jermain Defoe.

Anichebe revealed the Hawthorns academy graduate idolises Tottenham and England forward Defoe – and has now been nicknamed 'Defoe' by the former Everton man.

Berahino, who has signed a new three-and-a-half-year Albion contract, has burst onto the first-team scene this season with a total of 12 goals for the club and England Under-21s.

Anichebe said: "He's a really good player and a great finisher. He's a young player with a lot of confidence and he's come into a league where nobody really knows him.

"And he just enjoys it. It's nice to see someone that just comes in every day and enjoys it.

"Sometimes with older players it's more of a job, but he has come from nothing and he's come in and taken his chance. He's an unbelievable finisher. I call him 'Defoe' because that's how he is."

30 points docked off rugby side

WEDNESBURY have been deducted 30 league points for fielding two unregistered players in their Midlands Three West (North) match against Uttoxeter on November 23.

The penalty, imposed by the Midlands Leagues Organising Committee, will see 15 points deducted immediately with the balance suspended until the end of next season.

Wednesbury admitted playing two unregistered players and of providing a falsified matchcard which aggravated the original offence.

"It is important to note that the original offence of playing two unregistered players would only have attracted a five-point penalty," said Paul Kaminski, the MLOC chairman.

"In its efforts to cover up the offence, Wednesbury made matters much worse and would have attracted an even more severe penalty had they not eventually made a full admission of the offence,"

Goal-machine Ashton does it again for Tipton

Tipton Town 2 Gornal Athletic 0

TIPTON Town eased past local rivals Gornal Athletic thanks to two goals by goal machine midfielder Danny Ashton.

Football

But for an excellent performance in the Gornal goal by Luke Stevens and two second half encounters with the woodwork, Tipton might have come away from the game with a more decisive victory.

With many of the current Tipton squad having played under Ian Rowe during his successful spell as manager at Gornal, and with several of the Gornal players having played for Tipton, it was always likely to be a competitive affair.

The match started with an impeccably observed tribute to former Tipton, Tividale and Halesowen striker Brendan Pugh who sadly died this week.

It was one of Tipton's former Gornal crew who almost opened the scoring on seven minutes as Connor Gater curled a free kick over from 25 yards.

The impressive Hoshane Gabbidon came close with a free kick of his own on 17 minutes for Gornal and then at the other end of the pitch Stevens was called into action for the first time to deny Joe Rogers from close range.

On 32 minutes, Ashton's shot from the right-hand side of the area was palmed away superbly by Stevens.

At half time Ian Rowe rang the changes, bringing on Matt Weyman for Mensah Kinch.

Weyman made a profound impact on the second half as Tipton began to turn the screw.

Rogers spurned another chance just after the restart, skying an effort from close range after great work by Marvin Nisbett.

But Tipton's pressure finally told on 53 minutes when yet again Stevens produced a great save to deny Connor Gater and Danny Ashton was there to prod home.

Tipton settled from there on in and it was only a matter of time before the lead was increased as Town hit the woodwork twice within seven minutes from first Nisbett and then Weyman.

The introduction of Richard Smith from the bench for the final stages to play alongside Gornal skipper gave the visitors more impetus but the advantage was doubled on 76 minutes when Ashton finally got the better of Stevens with a 25 yard shot on the turn that looped over the keeper's head an into the back of the net.

Wright stuff gives Baggies youth the winner

Albion team-mates rush to congratulate Andre Wright on his winner against the Saddlers on Tuesday night

Albion 2 Walsall1

ANDRE WRIGHT got the winner as Albion came from behind to knock Walsall out of the FA Youth Cup, ***writes Matt Maher***.

The striker finished from close range after Saddlers keeper Richard Jones could only parry Bradley Sweeney's long-range effort to settle the third-round derby at The Hawthorns.

Carlton McKenzie had earlier put the visitors deservedly ahead on the half-hour with an excellent strike.

But the Baggies equalised almost immediately through Dan Barrow and took control of the game in the second half to see off their rivals, who will wonder what might have been, had they been able to take advantage of their firs-half dominance.

The visitors found themselves pushed deep early on but had the first shot of the game when McKenzie pounced on a loose Barrow pass and raced 60 yards before driving over.

That sparked a strong spell of pressure from the visitors. Wes Rush saw a shot blocked, while Liam Kinsella forced Alex Palmer into a smart save with a shot from the edge of the box.

But it was McKenzie who was impressing the most and it was only fitting he opened the score on the half hour, with a sweetly struck first-time shot from the corner of the box which flew past Palmer.

But having worked so hard to get into the lead, the visitors squandered it within seconds as Barrow beat the offside trap and lobbed Jones.

Wright then bundled the hosts ahead 13 minutes into the second half after Jones had parried a piledriver from Sweeney.

Seconds get a taste of defeat in derby

THE Walsall Seconds rugby team lost their match at Lichfield 25-15.

Carl Robinson and Matt Craddock scored tries for the visitors. While Andy Hawkins kicked a penalty and a conversion.

Walsall 3rd XV 34
Wednesbury 2nds 14.

Tries from Phil Stanley, James Quigley, Kieran Smith, Gavin Jones and Simon Bickley with two conversions from Kevin Pitt.

Walsall U-15s 17
Silhillians 5
Walsall U-14s 52
Silhillians 0

Walsall started strongly and after good passing, Cameron Kirkbride had the space to run in for the first try.

Two minutes later there was a repeat performance as Cameron scored his second.

The next two tries were from Jamie Harding.

The second half continued in the same vein with both forwards and backs managing to make deep inroads into the Old Sils defence.

Following one such run, Kirkbride managed to offload to Ryan Johnson to score under the posts.

Hawthorns game date is changed

ALBION'S home game with Liverpool has been moved to February 2 for live Sky coverage.

The clash at The Hawthorns will now kick off at 1.30pm after Sky and BT Sport released their latest round of live fixtures.

Villa's trip to Newcastle has also been moved back to 5.30pm on February 22 for Sky.

But should Manchester United be scheduled to play in the Champions League on February 25, the game will switch to Sunday, February 23 at 1.30pm and remain live on Sky.

It would swap with United's game with Crystal Palace which is currently due to kick off at 1.30pm on February 23.

The claret and blues' trip to Cardiff on Tuesday, February 11 will also be broadcast on BT Sport (7.45pm).

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SPORT

The Wright stuff
Youth striker gets killer goal in FA Cup contest
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Baggies dismiss transfer rumours

STEVE CLARKE must fashion an Albion recovery with the players already at the club – and not rely on a fresh wave of January transfers.

The Baggies are sticking to their new-year strategy of remaining reluctant activists in the January window despite growing speculation of interest in a variety of targets.

This week has seen the end-of-year rumour-mill kick into gear and link Albion to a string of targets both at home and abroad. But the club are again cautioning fans against getting swept up in the transfer talk.

With the breakthrough of Saido Berahino and the anticipated January return of George Thorne from his Watford loan taking Albion's senior numbers to 28, chairman Jeremy Peace feels Clarke has enough to compete effectively.

The team approaches Saturday's clash at Cardiff City on the back of three successive defeats.

Albion scouts have been spotted at Ipswich where there has been a long-standing interest in left-back Aaron Cresswell.

But Hawthorns sources distanced the club from the speculation and indicated instead that it would take major departures for any significant transfer business to be activated.

Albion want to stop rot

BILLY JONES insists Albion must not fall into the trap of feeling sorry for themselves as tensions build in the run-up to Saturday's crunch trip to Cardiff.

The teams meet 16th and 15th in the Premier League, separated by one point and on a like-for-like form slump of just one win in their last nine games.

With the Peter Odemwingie factor adding to the mix, the Baggies are desperate to stop a three-game losing streak as they run into their old leading scorer for the first time since his controversial exit.

Albion will confront a testing occasion nursing some serious grievances about key decisions which have gone against the team .

"Maybe another decision went against us on Saturday and that's maybe cost us a little bit this season points-wise," said Jones. But we can't dwell on those things."

Odemwingie is facing a date with his past

by Martin Swain

PETER ODEMWINGIE'S reunion with Albion was always going to carry a certain edge. When it finally arrives on Saturday it will be sharper than Shane Long's Dublin suit.

The Baggies have run into trouble and are hovering dangerously close to the relegation zone.

Odemwingie's Cardiff City are one point and one place below. Malky Mackay's outfit have one win and six points from their last nine games; the Baggies show just one point more from the same sequence.

How's Odemwingie faring? Not much better. He's scored a couple of goals but the last of those was against Newcastle at their flakiest back in October and he hasn't found the target in his last eight appearances.

That has started to cost him his starting role. The 32-year-old hasn't made the first XI in the last three games for Mackay, a dangerous trend for the Nigerian international who has been openly talking about reclaiming a spot in his nation's squad in time for the World Cup finals.

All of this suggests the undercurrent throughout the striker's contentious and controversial exit from the club was spot on – Odemwingie and Albion were both much stronger together than they ever will be apart.

The forward's 31 goals from 69 appearances make him Albion's most successful Premier League striker and, forgetting for a moment his petulant farewell to the club, you wonder how many Albion fans would find a place for him in the current team.

As much as head coach Steve Clarke always maintained the drawn-out saga did not destabilise his team, quite clearly it did – primarily because the half a dozen goals Odemwingie would have added over the second half of last season could have lifted his side and given Clarke more breathing space.

No, the Odemwingie Affair was a nightmare for all concerned. That ridiculous misadventure in the Loftus Road car park, aggravated by Twitter attacks on the club sullied his reputation for all time in the eyes of Baggies fans. There were precious few tears spilled when he left for good.

The player himself recently suggested he was now harbouring regrets about that.

"Of course I have regrets," he said. "There was a time when I couldn't escape it and I shouldn't have done what I did in January."

FEATHERS RUFFLED WITH CANARIES WIN

Albion 0 Norwich 2

THREE straight losses, culminating in Saturday's frustrating reverse against Norwich, have turned niggling concerns among Hawthorns regulars into fully-blown fears.

Football

Another couple of weeks of disappointment will lead inevitably to serious inquests, not just in the stands but in the corridors of power.

There were things to admire despite another two goals conceded and none scored.

At times Clarke's men moved the ball neatly and with purpose. They created an array of presentable chances.

Exercise

And for a half-hour spell in the second period, the game resembled an attack-versus-defence training exercise as a home side, boosted by the half-time introduction of substitutes Saido Berahino and Shane Long, laid siege to the Norwich goal.

And yet once again something was missing.

When Long and Victor Anichebe were presented with decent chances in the second period and Stephane Sessegnon was handed an absolute gift, there was never 100 per cent belief the opportunities would be taken.

Sure enough, all three went begging, two strong penalty claims were rejected by referee Mark Clattenburg and the Baggies were facing familiar emotions.

Clarke took a gamble before the game on Saturday that meant anything other than victory over Chris Hughton's Canaries would mean the microscope being turned on him.

Clarke's decision to throw on his two most potent goalscorers at the interval was inevitably seen by supporters as a tacit admission his original selection was wrong.

They trailed in just the 13th minute when an unfortunate deflection off Gareth McAuley and a slow reaction from Diego Lugano on his full Premier League debut allowed Gary Hooper to seize on Leroy Fer's pass and plant a fine finish past Boaz Myhill.

The attempted response from Clarke's men only resulted in comfortable saves for visiting goalkeeper John Ruddy from shots by Youssouf Mulumbu and Anichebe.

The half-time changes brought a more substantial response from the Baggies.

First came a penalty appeal when Norwich man Martin Olsson blocked a Sessegnon effort with his arm, only for Clattenburg to rule it accidental.

Norwich sealed the points with a minute remaining as Fer's shot defeated Myhill.

Martin Olsson of Norwich City blocks the goal bound shot of Stephane Sessegnon of West Bromwich Albion

Cradley Heathens are back

HEATHENS Speedway bosses have reverted to the Cradley Heath name for the 2014 season.

It means Cradley Heathens will ride in a competitive league for the first time since 1996 after replacing Dudley.

Management trio Nigel Pearson, Chris Van Straaten and Gary Patchett have also moved to assure fans it doesn't mean the end of their search for a new home in the area.

Heathens were reformed for the 2010 season from the ashes of the old Dudley Wood club – and the Dudley name was used with the intention of securing land in the borough. Pearson has revealed how the decision was taken at a management meeting with co-promoters Chris Van Straaten and Gary Patchett last week.

It's a decision which is sure to go down well with supporters, the majority of which come from the old Dudley Wood days.

Cradley were one of the glamour clubs of the 80s when thousands of fans flocked to the stadium every Saturday.

But when the site was demolished for housing, after one season in exile at Stoke the club closed.

Club chairman Nigel Pearson said: "We are agreed as a management that this is the way forward.

"We used the name Dudley because we weren't sure what the response would be, but it's clear the majority of our fan base are from the Cradley days.

"It's fair to say we are entering a make-or-break year for the current management to secure a new site – if we don't, then it will be down to the fans to decide whether they want Cradley to continue at Wolverhampton."

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford. Thursday, December 12, 2013.

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9 Local Information

public & legal notices

EDITH MARY (otherwise MOLLY) TURNER (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 680 Hagley Road West Oldbury West Midlands B68 0PN, who died on 22/10/2013, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 14/02/2014, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
SILKS SOLICITORS LIMITED
27 Birmingham Street Oldbury
West Midlands B69 4DY *T396807*

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Hanson Quarry Products Europe Ltd trading as **Hanson Aggregates** of **Ashby Road East, Shepshed, LE12 9BU** is applying to change an existing licence as follows:

To add an operating centre to keep **2** goods vehicles and **0** trailers at **Hanson Concrete, Rowey Way, Oldbury, Warley, B69 3EH.**

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the **Traffic Commissioner** at **Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF** stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough Councilof Sandwell (Devon Road and Harborne Road, Smethwick) (Temporary No Waiting At Any Time Restriction) Order 2013

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in order to prevent obstructive parking and as a road safety measure, the Borough Council of Sandwell intends, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily introduce 'No Waiting At Any Time' restrictions at the following locations in Smethwick:

Street Name	Side of Street	Location
Devon Road	North	From its junction with Harborne Road to a point 19 metres north-east of that junction
Devon Road	South	From its junction with Harborne Road to a point 19 metres north-east of that junction
Harborne Road	East	From a point 16 metres north-west of its junction with Devon Road to a point 9 metres south-east of that junction

3. The Order will take effect on 20th December 2013, and may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until permanent 'No Waiting At Any Time' restrictions have been introduced, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the restriction should be directed to Kira Fleck of Sandwell MBC Highways on 0121 569 4051.

DATED this 12th day of December 2013
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services,
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Halesowen Street, Rowley Regis) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2013

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in order to facilitate the replacement of a defective manhole, the Borough Council of Sandwell intends, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in a south westerly direction in Halesowen Street, Rowley Regis between Bassano Road and the roundabout located at the entrance to the supermarket.
2. The alternative route for south westerly bound vehicles will be via Bassano Road, High Street, Long Lane, Horner Way and Halesowen Street.
3. The Order will take effect on 5th January 2014, it is expected that the work will be completed and the road re-opened on that same day. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to Dave Shone of Amey (who are working on behalf of Severn Trent Water) who can be contacted on 01785 624150 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Baldwin Street, Smethwick) (Temporary Road Closures) Order 2013

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Borough Council of Sandwell, in order to facilitate a sewer connection to a new housing development by Barratt Homes, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice intends to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in the following roads in Baldwin Street, Smethwick from its junction with Cutler Street to its junction with the most southerly stretch of Baldwin Street.
2. The alternative route for vehicles will be via Messenger Road, Thomas Street, Price Street, Cutler Street and vice-versa.
3. The Order will take effect on 29th January 2014, and it is expected that the work will take until 25th February 2014, to complete. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to Tom Harrison of Friel Construction (working on behalf of Barratt Homes) who can be contacted on 01922 708860 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Bull Street and High Street (Princess Parade), West Bromwich)) (Temporary Road Closures) Order 2013

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Borough Council of Sandwell, in order to facilitate the demolition of a number of properties at the junction of Bull Street / High Street by Coleman's demolition (working on behalf of Sandwell MBC), in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice intends to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in the following roads in West Bromwich:
   - Bull Street from its junction with Scotland Passage to its junction with High Street.
   - High Street (Princess Parade) from its junction with Scotland Passage to its junction with Bull Street / West Bromwich Ringway.
2. The alternative route for vehicles will be via Overend Street, High Street and vice-versa.
3. The Order will take effect on 6th January 2014, and it is expected that the work will take until 7th March 2014, to complete. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to Peter Etterick of Colemans Demolition on 0121 325 2424 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

Dated this 12th day of December 2013
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough Council of Sandwell (John Wesley Way, Old College Drive, River Walk, Waterside Avenue, Tame Crossing, Wednesbury) (20MPH Speed Limit Zone) Order 2013

The Borough Council of Sandwell in exercise of its powers under Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with the provisions of Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, hereby makes the following Order:-

1. No person shall drive any vehicle at a speed exceeding 20mph on any of the lengths of road specified in the Schedule to this Notice.
2. The provisions of this Order shall not apply to:- any vehicle on an occasion when it is being used for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes, if the observance of that provision would be likely to hinder the use of the vehicle for the purpose for which it is being used on that occasion, or to a vehicle being used:-
   (a) for Serious Organised Crime Agency purposes, or
   (b) for training persons to drive vehicles for use of Serious Organised Crime purposes. However, (except where it is being used for training by the person by whom it is being driven), the exemption does not apply in relation to a vehicle unless it is being driven by a person who is being trained in driving vehicles at high speeds.
3. The Order shall not apply to a vehicle if it is a vehicle used for naval, military or air force purposes and that vehicle if it is being driven by a person or a member of the armed forces of the Crown on an occasion when:-
   (a) the person driving the vehicle is a member of the special forces as defined in the Road Traffic Exemptions (Special Forces) (Variation and Amendment) Regulations 2011; and
   (b) the vehicle is being driven:
      (i) in response, or for practice in responding, to a national security emergency by a person who has been trained in driving vehicles at high speeds; or
      (ii) for the purpose of training a person in driving vehicles at high speeds.
4. This Order shall come into effect on 24th day of December 2013, and may be cited as The Borough Council Of Sandwell (John Wesley Way, Old College Drive, River Walk, Waterside Avenue, Tame Crossing, Wednesbury) (20mph Speed Limit Zone) Order 2013.

Schedule

(John Wesley Way)
(Old College Drive)
(River Walk)
(Waterside Avenue)
(Tame Crossing, Wednesbury) Their entire lengths

Dated this 12th of December 2013
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

Proposed Toucan Crossing in Walsall Road, West Bromwich

1. Notice is hereby given that the Borough Council of Sandwell proposes under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, to construct a Toucan Crossing in Walsall Road, West Bromwich, located approximately 240m south of its junction with Greenside Way.
2. A copy of the map showing full details of the proposed location of the crossing may be inspected at the offices of the Area Director Street Scene, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands B69 3DE between the hours of 9am - 5.30pm Mondays - Thursdays and 9am - 5pm on Fridays.
3. Any person wishing to make a representation in respect of this proposal should contact Kelly Adams, Directorate of Street Scene, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, B69 3DE or email highways@sandwell.gov.uk by no later than 3rd January 2014.

The Borough Council of Sandwell (A461 Burnt Tree To Black Country New Road) (Red Route) Variation Order No.1 2013

Notice is hereby given that the Area Director – Street Scene on behalf of the Borough Council of Sandwell and under the powers confirmed on him under Section 10(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, has modified the Borough Council of Sandwell (A461 Burnt Tree to Black Country New Road) (Red Route) (Experimental) Order 2012 as follows:-

1. The Borough Council of Sandwell (A461 Burnt Tree to Black Country New Road) (Red Route) (Experimental) Order 2012 is hereby varied and shall have the effect of:
   (a) amending the 'Red Route No Stopping At Any Time' and replace with 'Red Route No Stopping on Mondays - Fridays between 7.00am - 7.00pm' delineated on Drawing Number 38898 S/4 being outside Nos. 16 - 20a Horseley Heath, Tipton.
   (b) removing the Red Route restriction of 'No Stopping At Any Time' over a length of approximately 10 metres in St. Pauls Drive and more particularly delineated on Drawing Number 38837 S/4.
2. A copy of the modified Order has been added to the deposited documents and may be examined together with a plan showing the location of the variation at the offices of the Area Director Street Scene, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE between the hours of 9am - 5.30pm Mondays - Thursdays and 9am - 5pm on Fridays.
3. Any person wishing to make representation or objection to the modified Order must do so in writing to Mr Irfan Choudry, Highways Services Manager, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE or by email: highways@sandwell.gov.uk by no later than 12th June 2014.

Dated this 12th day of December 2013
S HANDLEY, Area Director Street Scene
Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands B69 3DE

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF SANDWELL (ALBION STREET & ROWAY LANE, OLDBURY) (TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES) ORDER 2013

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in order to facilitate a gas connection to a new waste recycling plant in Union Road by Carillion (working on behalf of Fulcrum Connections), the Borough Council of Sandwell, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, has made an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in the following stretches of road in Oldbury:

   Albion Street (Phase 1)
   Salop Street to Dudley Road.
   The alternative route for traffic will be via Dudley Road, Salop Street and vice-versa.

   Albion Street (Phase 2)
   Roway Lane to Salop Street.
   The alternative route for traffic will be via Dudley Road, Dudley Road East, Roway Lane and vice-versa.

   Roway Lane (Phase 3)
   Albion Street to Union Road.
   The alternative route for traffic will be via Roway Lane, West Bromwich Street, Fountain Lane, Bromford Road, Oldbury Ringway, Dudley Road, Dudley Road East and vice-versa.
2. It is anticipated that the work will be phased, with phases 1 and 2 being carried out week beginning 16th December 2013. Phase 3 is expected to commence on 6th January 2014, and take 3 weeks to complete.
3. The Order will take effect on 16th December 2013, it is expected that the work will be completed by 25th January 2014. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to Steve Bramley of Carillion who can be contacted on 07972 224646 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

DATED this 12th day of December 2013
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Section 53 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Staffordshire (Rowley Regis) Definitive Map and Statement
The Borough Council of Sandwell (Dudley Road East, Brades Hall, Tividale, Rowley Regis,West Midlands) Definitive Map Modification Order 2013

The above order made on 3rd December 2013, if confirmed as made, will modify the Staffordshire (Rowley Regis) Definitive Map and Statement for the area by adding to them two footpaths one from the north side Dudley Road East Brades Hall Tividale Oldbury West Midlands to south west of the River Tame the other a connecting footpath to the south east of the Gower Branch canal Oldbury as described on the map annexed to the order.

A copy of the order and the order map may be seen free of charge at the offices of the Borough Council of Sandwell at Sandwell Council House Freeth St Oldbury West Midlands between 9am to 5.30pm Mondays to Thursdays and between 9.00am to 5.00pm Friday. Copies of the order map may be bought there at a price of £1.00.

Any representation or objection relating to the order must be sent in writing to the Area Director Street Scene, Sandwell Council House, Freeth St, Oldbury, West Midlands B70 8RU, marked for the attention of Definitive Mapping, not later than 12th February 2014 and applicants are requested to state the grounds on it is made.

If no representations or objections are duly made to the order, or to any part of it, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Borough Council of Sandwell, instead of submitting the order to the Secretary of State (or part of it if authority has by notice to the Secretary of State so elected under paragraph 5 of schedule 15 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) may itself confirm the order (or that part of the order).If the order is submitted to the Secretary of State (in whole or part), any representations or objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with it.

Dated this 3rd day of December 2013.
Steve Handley, Area Director Street Scene
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, Warley, West Midlands B69 3DF

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Lewisham Road, Smethwick) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2013

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in order to facilitate the construction of a new road layout associated with a new housing development by PXP West Midlands, the Borough Council of Sandwell, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, intends to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding in Lewisham Road, Smethwick from its junction with Sydenham Road to its junction with Middlemore Road.
2. The alternative route for vehicles will be via Halfords Lane, Birmingham Road, Holyhead Road, Middlemore Road and vice-versa.
3. The Order will take effect on 6th January 2014, it is expected that the work will be completed and the road re-opened by 31st January 2014. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the work should be directed to Fraser Harrow of Forkers Ltd (working on behalf of PXP West Midlands) who can be contacted on 07854 412079 and those relating to the effect of the Order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Highway Services on 0845 359 7518.

Dated this 12th day of December 2013
N SHARMA, Director of Legal and Governance Services
Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regeneration and Economy
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010

I hereby give notice that Sandwell Council has received the following applications under the planning acts which it is required to give public notice for the reason given at the beginning of each group of applications.
This is a major application.

DC/13/56569	Mr S.S & B.S Dubb	Land Adj 5 Rawlings Road & Rear of 460 - 470 (evens) Bearwood Road Smethwick B66 4HA	Demolition of existing buildings, including manufacturing workshops, retail unit and residential dwelling, and erection of 16 (1 bedroom) flats.

Members of the public may inspect copies of these applications at Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE
(between 8.00a.m. and 5.30p.m. Monday to Thursday, and 8.00a.m. to 5p.m. Friday) or via the Council's Public Access website (www.sandwell.gov.uk).
Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications can do so via the website, or should write to the Council at the above address within 21 days (and 21 days for Listed Building or Conservation Area consent) of the date of this advertisement quoting the application reference number.
MR NICK BUBALO, Area Director – Regeneration and Economy

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on 01902 713146
or email
marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

IN BANKRUPTCY
BIRMINGHAM COUNTY COURT
NO. 2315 OF 2007 **RE: CAROL POULTON**
D.O.B: 30 December 1941
I intend to pay within four months *from 29th January 2014* (being the last day for proving) the first and final dividend of 4.05 p/£.
Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must do so *by 29th January 2014* otherwise they will be excluded from the dividend. The required proof of debt form is available on the Insolvency Service website (www.bis.gov.uk/insolvency, select "Forms" and then form 6.37). Alternatively, you can contact my office at Ground Floor, Copthall House, King Street, Newcastle Under Lyme, Staffs ST5 1UE, telephone 01782 664189 to supply a form.
Mr S J Fearns, Official Receiver and trustee

MADELINE DOROTHY ANNETTS (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 76 Pitcairn Road Smethwick West Midlands B67 5NE, who died on 08/06/2013, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 21/02/2014, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
QUALITYSOLICITORS TALBOTS
Inhedge House
31 Wolverhampton Street Dudley
West Midlands DY1 1DB *T396910*

10 Personals

personal

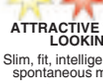

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Photo and phone number for reply.
Wolverhampton, Sandwell, North Birmingham area preferred.
Reply if you dare!
Box Number P18973 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

OVER 40'S CHRISTMAS DINNER Party. Friday 20th December. 4 course meal £30pp. Advance booking only. Tracy: 07576 457372 or www.whenthemusicstops.com

OVER 40'S CHRISTMAS DISCO Party Night at Hatherton House Hotel, Penkridge, on Sunday 15th December. Bring all your friends! £5 entrance. *Advance booking only. Contact Tracy 07576 457372.

SPEED DATING, Penn, Wolverhampton. Ages 30-45 Wed 11th Dec. Ages 40-55 Wed 18th Dec. www.whenthemusicstops.com or call Tracy: 07576 457372.

XTASIA SWINGERS CLUB West Bromwich. www.xtasia.co.uk for full information. 07850 236053.

sports clubs

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general

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Regarding a Traffic Incident on March 18, 2013, at 7.20am a white BMW (BK61 THV) and a Thandis Coach (XIL 8977).
Travelling along Great Western Way A461 travelling towards Horseley Heath.
Appealing for any witnesses to contact me on
0121 557 7282.